

Hafa Adai!

Guam logs 80th COVID-19-related death. **PAGE 2**

'We can never be too careful' **PAGE 5**

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2020 GENERAL ELECTION

Thousands make voices heard

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Most people had their work hours cut, several have lost their jobs, families are tightening their budget, the private sector is struggling, and residents and the government are essentially dependent on federal funding due to the global CO-

VID-19 pandemic, but that did not stop thousands of face mask-wearing voters from making their voices heard at yesterday's generally peaceful but out-of-the-ordinary election in the CNMI.

As of press time last night, the Commonwealth Election Commission had yet to start tabulating the ballots. They weren't expected to do so until around 10pm or 11pm last night.

In this extraordinary election, people had more choices as the Democratic Party had

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» **Slow but smooth election**

» **Face mask wearing-voters troop to polling sites**

A poll worker checks the registration of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), as he prepares to cast his vote at the Garapan Elementary School. He was accompanied to the polling site by his wife, Andrea.

NEIL FAMA



A voter casts a vote inside the polling station at Oleai Elementary School.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Last batch of absentee ballots arriving on Nov. 17

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The last batch of absentee ballots will be arriving at the U.S. Postal Office in Chalan Kanoa on Nov. 17, according to Commonwealth Election Commission administrative officer Kayla Igitol yesterday.

This means that CEC's

» **It cost CEC \$27K to charter boat to get 7 votes from Northern Islands**

tabulation of votes is still going to be unofficial until Nov.



Igitol

17, Igitol said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Igitol said, however, that if the last batch of absentee ballots will not make a difference, CEC will move forward and certify the results of the count.

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REPORTERS' NOTEBOOK

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) voted with his wife, Andrea, at the Garapan Elementary School yesterday at 9am. Sablan also announced to the media and poll workers at the main entrance of the polling site that it was also Andrea's birthday that day. Andrea

immediately received cheers and birthday greetings. Kilili was wearing his lucky blue Hawaiian shirt that Andrea bought for him at Joeten in 2008. Every time Kilili runs for re-election, he wears the same shirt. (Ferdie De La Torre)

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COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Aiko's Ramen in Susupe will be bowing out on Dec. 1, 2020, after four years of existence.

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ASIA

At least 20 people were killed as Typhoon Goni lashed the Philippines over the weekend.

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LIFE & STYLE

Johnny Depp lost his libel case against *The Sun* tabloid for labeling him a "wife beater."

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Local

Guam logs 80th COVID-19-related death

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

COVID-19 claimed another life in Guam, with its death toll now reaching 80, after a 63-year-old male who had underlying health conditions that were impacted by COVID-19 died last Nov. 2.

According to the Joint Information Center yesterday, Guam's 80th COVID-19-related fatality was pronounced dead on arrival at Guam Memorial Hospital at approximately 9:40pm last Monday. JIC reported that the latest victim was a known COVID-19 case and was previously ad-

mitted to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Guam.

Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero offered her "sincerest sympathies and condolences" to his family, adding that time won't help with mourning and losing a loved one. Leon Guerrero added that the island can honor the life of the victim by putting the health of the community before themselves.

"Each of us are soldiers in this fight, and victory requires us all to remain vigilant. We are the frontlines, and I call on the people of Guam to do what is right," said Leon Guerrero. "May his memory

be a blessing to all those who knew him."

COVID-19 on Saipan

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notified public health officials in all 50 states and five large cities, to prepare to distribute a coronavirus vaccine to health workers and other high-risk groups at the end of this year or early next year.

Esther Muña, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer, declined to comment on this, though. When asked if there was an expected roll-out date for vaccinations in the CNMI, she

said, "We don't want to say."

According to multiple media outlets, pushing out a COVID-19 vaccination in six months is considered "phenomenal" because it usually takes years to develop a vaccine.

"In the past, vaccines have been developed through a series of steps that can take many years. Now, given the urgent need for a COVID-19 vaccine, unprecedented financial investments and scientific collaborations are changing how vaccines are developed. This means that some steps in the research and development process are

happening in parallel, while still maintaining strict clinical and safety standards," said the World Health Organization's website.

WHO also stated that some clinical trials are evaluating multiple vaccines at the same time but this does not make the studies any less rigorous. The WHO is one of the leaders (with Gavi and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations) in a global effort known as COVAX that is speeding up the search for safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by pooling the resources of many countries.

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Nov. 3, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	4,690	3	4,693
Recovered	2,666	0	2,666
Active	1,945	3	1,948
Deaths	79	1	80
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	67,664		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	96	0	96
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	22,633*		

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.



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Free support groups this month for caregivers of persons with dementia

The online support groups for family caregivers of persons with dementia hosted by the Isa Psychological Services Center at the University of Guam will continue in November. Two sessions will feature Dr. Clare Camacho, a certified speech-language pathologist, who will present on communication aspects of dementia and speech-language therapy.

The sessions are free of charge to partners, family members, and other caregivers of persons with dementia throughout Micronesia. All support groups are client-centered and confidential.

November sessions:

■ 6pm – 8pm on Wednesday, Nov. 4

■ 10am – noon on Saturday, Nov. 7

■ 6pm – 8pm on Wednesday, Nov. 18 (featuring Clare Camacho, CCC-SLP)

■ 10am – noon on Saturday, Nov. 21 (featuring Clare Camacho, CCC-SLP)

Camacho will be available after her presentations to answer questions from the group participants.

What to expect

The support groups provide a safe place to share the stresses and challenges, successes and rewards of caring for a loved one with dementia with others

who may be going through similar experiences. They also provide a forum for caregivers to participate in presentations led by health care professionals and other community members with expertise in caring for persons with dementia.

The support groups are facilitated by clinical psychologist Dr. Iain Twaddle of Isa Psychological Services Center; Health Services of the Pacific social worker Rhoda Orallo, who holds a master's in social work; and Isa counselor Nikolas Gutierrez, who holds a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Sign up to participate

The support groups launched in August in collaboration with the UOG School of Health's Guam/Micronesia Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program. They will be held year-round on the first and third Wednesdays and Saturdays of each month at 6pm on Wednesdays and 10am on Saturdays. The support groups will be conducted remotely on Zoom during the pandemic.

To sign up for a family caregiver online support group, call or email Nikolas Gutierrez at (671) 735-2883 or isa.tgss@triton.uog.edu or Rhoda Orallo (671) 735-3277 or nfcspmgr@teleguam.net. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SCC meeting, election today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting today, Nov. 4, 2020 at Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom. This will be the Chamber's first in-person meeting since the onset of COVID-19. Guest speaker for the event is Patrick C. Guerrero from the Office of the Governor - CNMI Public Assistance Office, who serves as the Public Assistance Officer for Soudelor, Mangkhut, Yutu, and the Governor's Authorized Representative for the COVID-19. Guerrero will be presenting updates on ongoing recovery projects, as well as how businesses can better position themselves to bid on CNMI government contracts.

The primary focus of the GMM will be to elect members to serve on the 2021/2022 board of directors. There are five open positions for the board. All Chamber member representatives will be given the opportunity to vote for their candidate of choice. Online voting is already done; in person voting will take place at the meeting. Number of votes is determined by company membership category (i.e., Category B- 2 Votes). Each

representative will be able to vote for up to five candidates.

A plate lunch will be served at 11:30am and the meeting will begin promptly at noon. The luncheon fee is \$25/ chamber member and \$35/ non-member. (PR)

NGSWCD board meeting set

The Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District regular monthly board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020, at pm. Call 483-0097 for the Zoom link. (PR)

CHamoru commission meeting set

The *Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nā'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Tao-tao Tāno'* (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its first November monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020, from 12:30pm to 3:30pm through a virtual Zoom meeting. Call Kumisión secretary Roland Blas for special accommodations, Zoom link information and agenda at 480-4047 (rolandblas1973@gmail.com). (PR)

'Voting process has been going smoothly'

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Despite the enhanced COVID-19 safety protocols that were put in place to provide a level of safety in yesterday's voting process, Election Day yesterday in Precincts 4C, 5-1, and 5-2 was smooth sailing, with no problems encountered.

In an interview with precincts 5-1 and 5-2 poll supervisor Barbara Iglesias, she said this year's election season has been different compared to previous elections because

the line of voters continuously flowed and there were no crowds. That could also be because many took advantage of the early voting that began last Oct. 13, reducing the number of people crowding the polling sites.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commonwealth Election Commission hired some people to not only work at the polls but to also check-in voters before they enter the polling sites to vote. The check-in process included checking the voters' temperature and collecting their names

and contact numbers before they headed in to cast their votes. Iglesias said they followed social distancing rules and made sure that the voters followed the rule as well.

Those who felt sick were still able to vote, although they were made to vote at the curbside and then drop their votes into the ballot boxes.

Iglesias and her team at Precincts 5-1 and 5-2 have not run into any problems thus far. She added that even with early voting, it's been smooth as can be and everyone has been respectful.

Iglesias has been a poll supervisor for three years now, and one difference that she's seen is that the CEC hired people this time not only for the election process itself but also with enforcing social distancing rules and checking of temperatures.

Iglesias stated that the early voting helped a lot as well because they saw little crowds this election year. CEC also supplied the team with masks and T-shirts that show what their positions were.

As of 12pm yesterday, the

See VOTING on Next Page

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IPI sued anew for breach of contract

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Another company has filed a lawsuit with the U.S. District Court for the NMI against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC for breach of contract after IPI allegedly failed to pay them for their services.

Winzy Corp., a general maintenance and repair company, has sued Imperial Pacific International in federal court for breach of contract and unjust enrichment. The company entered its suit on Oct. 30.

Winzy, through lawyer Mark Scoggins, stated in its lawsuit that the company entered into an agreement with IPI in early 2020 to provide supervision and consulting services for the Saipan casino project.

Winzy noted that they worked under the terms of the agreement in good faith, and in a good and work-

manlike manner. However, IPI allegedly failed to pay the amounts owed under the agreement totaling \$162,925.

Scoggins has asked the District Court for the NMI for an award of unspecified damages that include pre/post judgment interest, and attorney's fees.

The lawsuit did not demand a jury trial.

Last month, the CNMI government also sued IPI in an attempt to collect the unpaid balance on its tax return.

THOUSANDS

From Page 1

18 candidates or almost a full slate, which is the first time in over four decades for the party.

The Republican Party had 21 candidates, while nine are running as independents. There were also 20 nonpartisans, including one justice and two judges who were on the retention ballot.

Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Julita A. Villagomez said they had no major problems at all. This was echoed by CEC administrative hearing officer Kayla Igitol, who said the election has been running well, and they haven't had any major concerns.

"It's just voters not knowing whether they're registered or they forget that they're registered, or they forget that they never registered," she said. Others failed to vote in three successive elections and are only now trying to come out and vote, not knowing that they're now considered inactive.

"But that's the only situations we've been running into. Nothing major. Things have been going really smooth," she said.

Igitol said the early voting did help with the pace that they're seeing on election day yesterday—pretty slow but smooth. "But it was 21 days. That was a long time," she said, referring to the early voting period.

As of Monday, a total of 8,369 had cast early votes in the CNMI. The 21-day early voting on Saipan and seven-day early voting on Tinian and Rota ended Monday.

As of Oct. 7, there was a total of 18,519 registered voters in the CNMI. As of Oct. 26, there were 1,625 absentee voters.

Villagomez said the CEC board met yesterday afternoon to formalize their tabulation committee.

Poima Maleah Mafnas Tarkong, 21, who was among those who voted yesterday afternoon at Dandan Middle School, was supposed to avail of the 21-day early voting process, but she was just so busy being a full-time student at Northern Marianas

College and has two jobs. "So since today I was off and my classes were cancelled, I actually had the time to come and vote today," Tarkong said.

She said the voting process was very fast and very easy so she really appreciates the CEC officials and staff for working on it.

Tarkong said she decided to select the candidates based of what they stand for. She said she selects people who seem to really do want change and make the islands better and not people who just talk and make empty promises.

Tarkong said she based it on her knowledge of what they actually do for the community and how she knows them as best as she could. "The problem here is we don't really have a lot to choose from in certain instances. So I tried to incorporate that into voting but sometimes it's hard when there's not a lot of representation," Tarkong added.

House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan), who is seeking re-election for Precinct 3 under the Republican Party, said that having the Democratic Party fielding many candidates is a good opportunity for people to make choices.

Attao said the availability of more candidates a very good outcome for the election. "It's positive because we have choices and, at the end of the day, people get to decide who will be representing them in the next two years and we've got to respect that," he said. "Opportunities are all that people ask for and they should get those opportunities."

Attao gave credit to the CEC for stepping up. He said the CEC went to the Legislature to work something out and urge the Legislature to pass a temporary law for this election because of the COVID-19 pandemic that's facing the world.

"We give credit to those guys at the election commission for working that out and making sure that the people's safety comes first," Attao said.

Former House speaker Heinz Hofschneider said in an interview after voting at Garapan Elementary School that he wishes all the candidates the best. Hofschneider said the Democrats, the Republicans, and in-

dependents worked hard in this election. "May the best candidates that the people see win," he said.

Hofschneider said this is a difficult period that everyone is experiencing, not only the CNMI but around the world. "We have so many challenges. And I'm hoping for the best that people pay attention to the people and focus on the economy," he said.

Hofschneider said that, without the economy, even if there is a grandiose plan to benefit the people, it won't be possible if the CNMI does not rejuvenate the economy.

Delegate Gregorio Kili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and his wife, Andrea, voted at the Garapan Elementary School at 9am.

Sablan said the voting process was organized and that the CEC had to enforce safety measures so it took a little bit of time to vote.

Sablan said he understands that maybe over half of the people voted either through early voting or absentee ballots, which make it a little easier for in-person voting yesterday.

"Today I think it's going to be a little slower but also safer," he said.

Sablan said he is humbled and grateful, being a sure winner as he is running unopposed.

He said it allowed him more time to do the work that he needed to done in Congress. "We got this education money for teachers and school support staff that I've been working on for some time. We finally we're able to put together and we introduced it in the House and that brings 10 years of funding for teachers and support staff—the salaries basically," Sablan said.

The delegate said the Democratic Party fielding many candidates is good as it gives people more choices. He said the two sides can debate their policies and explain to the people their differences, if there are any.

"This, I hope, is a start of the rebirth if, I may, of the two party-system," Sablan said.

More voters started arriving at polling places between 10am and 1pm.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

on Alamagan and Agrigan, and one on Pagan.

Igitol said it cost CEC \$27,000 to charter the boat to pick up the seven votes.

She said the last time they used a helicopter to get votes from the Northern Islands was in the 2009 election.

She said the helicopter is not possible this time as there is a fuel issue in the Northern Islands as its fuel station was damaged a few years ago.

The Division of Tax and Revenue claims that IPI has an unpaid balance of \$176,880.70, hence the tax lien notice under Commonwealth tax law.

Santos said the division has demanded a payment from IPI on multiple occasions but the balance remains unpaid.

From January to March 2020, the Division of Revenue and Taxation

assessed that IPI has an unpaid balance of \$169,388.94 in employer's withholding tax.

In addition, IPI has an unpaid \$7,491.76 BGRT for the tax period ended June 30, 2020, the division stated.

Previously, the division said IPI owed the CNMI government \$9,416,887.09 in unpaid BGRT taxes.

REPORTERS

From Page 1

■■■

The front of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, which is the polling site for Precinct 2, was very lively as both Republican Party and Democratic Party camps played mostly reggae and local songs. Some of the candidates' supporters would dance on the side of the road as they waved to motorists and voters. Democratic Party chair Nola Hix, who is pregnant, stopped her car on the side of the road and danced to Flo Rida's hit, *Low*. (**Ferdie De La Torre**)

■■■

This year's election was much calmer compared to the 2018 gubernatorial elections. Covering two years ago, I remember dozens of people along the streets campaigning in support of their candidate. This year, it seemed as though you could count the number of people who were campaigning along the streets with the fingers on your hands and feet. The COVID-19 may have had a hand in it. (**Kimberly Bautista**)

■■■

This year's election was definitely much stricter than the last. Right when you approach the registration table in front of the voting area, you are immediately stopped and asked what your business is. Being part of the media, I was immediately told that no one but the supervisor was allowed to speak with me. Even then, the poll supervisors seemed hesitant to go on record to talk about the results of this year's election. (**Kimberly Bautista**)

■■■

Voting precincts were nearly empty compared to last election season. In the 2018 gubernatorial elections, voting precincts were packed with people ready and eager to vote. This year, there were close to no one there, the place mostly consisted of poll staff. (**Kimberly Bautista**)

■■■

This election season was a different experience, not only because of the pandemic, but because I went in as a reporter and not a citizen. Being the introvert that I am, I followed another reporter to Garapan Element-

tary School to get an idea of how my interview should go. As soon as we approached the staff at GES, we were immediately told that we couldn't take pictures or videos, and the staff could not comment on the voting process. (**Justine Nauta**)

■■■

When I came back from the United States, when I was like 12 years old, I would follow my parents around to see the crowds of people on the side of the road participating in road-side waving. At the time, it was very new to me because I've never seen that in the U.S. mainland. This year, however, there weren't a lot of people under one tent and because I was in the northern side of the island, I didn't see much people on the road either. I was pleased to see that the community was actually following the social distancing rule. Also, with the COVID-19 rules, almost every site I went to immediately checked people's temperatures and made sure they were at the appropriate distance. (**Justine Nauta**)

■■■

When I went to the Kagman Community Center for an interview with one of the poll supervisors, Barbara Iglesias, I saw a local guy in his mid-50s holding a Trump 2020 sign. Ditto for huge placard located in a private lot on the road going up San Vicente that that states the same message. (**Justine Nauta**)

■■■

Eleven months working under *Saipan Tribune* as a reporter, every time I tried to take a candid picture of someone, they would hide from the camera. It was different this time, when I went to KCC, where people on the side of the road wanted me to take their pictures, and I did not hesitate to do so. (**Justine Nauta**)

■■■

After I took a picture of the crowd on the side of the road, a guy came up to me to ask if I chew betel nut. When I said no, he laughed and walked away. An odd interaction, but I think he was going to offer me betel nut because he had a bag full of something. I initially thought it would be food, but even if it was, I still would've declined. You can never be too careful. (**Justine Nauta**)

with all COVID-19 rules.

Salas said that there has been no curbside voting for the first half of the day. Just like Iglesias, voting in Precinct 4C has been smooth, with no run-ins with problems. The COVID-19 protocols made this process new for many voters but it did not interfere with the voting process.

As of 12pm yesterday, the Legislature had 14 voters at 8am, 25 voters at 9am, 10 voters at 10am, 12 voters at 11am, and 17 voters at 12pm for a total of 78 voters for the first half of the day.

VOTING

From Page 3

Kagman Community Center had 11 voters at 8am, 22 voters at 9am, 35 voters at 10am, 34 voters at 11am, and 28 voters at 12pm, for a total of 130 voters for the first half of the day.

As for Precinct 4C, poll supervisor May Salas said that it has been "very interesting and exciting" experience as it was her first time to be a poll supervisor. She added that voters have also been compliant

LAST

From Page 1

"But we got to see what the outcome is tonight," she said.

The administrative officer said they picked up over 900 envelopes of absentee ballots and placed them in six boxes last Saturday. She said each envelope contains one or more ballots because some families share an envelope.

CEC staff picked up absentee ballots twice yesterday from the postal office.

As of Oct. 26, there were 1,625 absentee voters.

Meanwhile, the ship that went out Friday to the Northern Islands to pick up seven votes was expected to arrive last night, Tuesday.

Igitol said it was supposed to get 10 votes, but she believes that three residents went back to Saipan.

She said there are three voters each

'We can never be too careful'

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The official opening of the Alternate Care Site at Kanoa Resort and its handover to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. means the CNMI will be “ready for anything.”

That’s the sentiment of Esther Muña, CHCC chief executive officer, to underscore the importance of the Torres-Palacios administration’s handover of the ACS to CHCC last Oct. 28, 2020.

Muña has been reading about how hospitals around the world don’t have enough rooms for patients, which leads them to place beds outside hospitals to accommodate the surge of COVID-19 infections. This is what Muña said she wants to avoid.

Muña hopes the CNMI will never have to use the ACS, which was built to accommodate a potential surge in COVID-19 infections in the Commonwealth. If ever that happens, though, Muña said that CHCC will be ready. She said their intentions for the ACS is for testing, isolation, quarantine, etc., in order to protect the community. This system is being touted as a means to “stop the spread.”

Muña said there are no talks right now on the topic of what will happen if the ACS isn’t ever used.

The facility will be managed by the staff of CHCC. Having the ACS, Muña said, means their staff will have the tools to combat COVID-19 in-

fections. “Having the staff of CHCC take over means that they will make sure the health care services provided at the ACS meet standards, she said. That means the CHCC staff will ensure that there’s more than enough medical supplies, assisting in infection control, and helping in ways that they can. “It’s going to be the people. So the facility itself, being ready for those people to be there to do their job, in case of a surge or in case we (CNMI) need it, it’s basically ready for us to do that,” said Muña.

The ACS being the designated site for COVID-19 positive patients means CHCC will be able to separate non-COVID-19 patients and COVID-19 patients, and also know which staff is at the ACS. The intent is also to make sure that CHCC staff are also protected, Muña said.

As of Oct. 28, Muña stated that patients who are currently in isolation are in hotel rooms and not at the facility. “Thankfully, they’re not having symptoms. One of them did have symptoms, but basically has been treated, so they haven’t been really elevated to an acute care facility hospital facility,” said Muña.

That means that, as of now, the CNMI’s COVID-19 patients are still okay. If there is an acute care hospital need, which means that their underlying health conditions have deteriorated and they have worsened, then that’s when they are going to be moved to the ACS.

cant,” said assistant secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Douglas W. Domenech. “The Trump Administration has been supportive of the insular areas, and it is extremely helpful to see the specific data and reporting in order to better realize the impact of the funding and support from Congress through OIA on the lives of individuals in the islands.”

Grant funding from the Office of Insular Affairs, the primary activity of the office, had a large impact on insular area employment supporting over 12,600 jobs.

Interior’s full fiscal year 2019 Economic Report as prepared by the Office of Policy, Management, and Budget is available at: <https://doi.sciencebase.gov/doid/>. Prior year economic reports may be found at <https://www.doi.gov/oia/reports/OIAeconomicreports>. (PR)


Interior’s economic impact on insular areas estimated at \$1B

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of the Interior has released its fiscal year 2019 economic report highlighting that Interior activities in the insular areas resulted in \$1 billion in economic output and supported 25,334 jobs during fiscal year 2019.


The report included activities covering recreation, grants and payments, and payroll to the insular areas administered primarily by the Office of Insular Affairs and, to a lesser extent, other Interior bureaus. This is the first year that Interior contributions to insular areas have been separately identified from U.S. national and state contributions.

“Under the leadership of the Secretary and the President, the overall impact of funding that was provided through the Office of Insular Affairs to the U.S. territories and the freely associated states was significant,” said assistant secretary,

» Fiscal year 2019 report estimates support for more than 25,000 jobs



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Office of the Secretary of Public Works
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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Department of Public Works (DPW) would like to notify the general public of the 4-Year Federal-Aid Highway Program Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) Amendment-2.

A copy of the plan can be obtained at DPW Technical Services Division Highway Branch for review and comments. Written comments must be submitted directly to DPW TSD Highway Branch, 2nd. Floor Joeten Commercial Bldg., Beach Road (above First Hawaiian Branch) or via email to: lms.dpwtst@gmail.com and ldlcs.dpw@gmail.com no later than November 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Should you have any questions regarding DPW TTIP, you may contact Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Highway Administrator or Lauren Sanchez, Federal Program Coordinator at the Department of Public Works TSD Highway Branch at 234-9828.

The following are listed in the TTIP Amendment-2:

I. CNMI DEPARTMENT OF Public Works Technical Services Division HIGHWAY BRANCH 4-YEAR Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment-2: PROJECTS FUNDED BY: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Amendment 2								
DISTRICT	VILLAGE	ROUTE NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF WORK	FY2020 FEDERAL	FY2021 FEDERAL	FY2022 FEDERAL	FY2023 FEDERAL
ALL	ALL	FY	Highway Planning, Technology Transfer & Training Activities Program-	Admin	\$ 975,986.00	\$ 1,417,604.20	\$ 1,931,986.00	\$ 1,644,486.00
ALL	ALL	OJTSS	On The Job Training Support Services	Admin	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00
ALL	ALL	NSTI	National Summer Transportation Institute	Admin	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
I	Songsong	10	Route 10 Drainage upgrade from Pinatang Park to CUC Power Plant - Phase II	PE-Design Construction			\$ 1,500,000.00	
I	Sinapalo	11	"Route 11 - Sabana Road Improvement, Phase II"	Construction		\$ 1,750,000.00		
I	Dugi	103	Route 103 - Roadway Improvements	PE Design		\$ 300,000.00		
II	San Jose	202	Route 202 - Hazard Elimination	PE Design Construction		\$ 500,000.00		
III	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Chalan Pale Arnold Hazard Elimination	PE ROW Construction CM			\$ 1,000,000.00	
	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Installation of Traffic Light System	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 2,500,000.00		
III	As Perdido	32	As Perdido Road Safety Improvements	PE Design Construction CM-DPW			\$ 200,000.00	
III	Susupe - Oleai	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 2	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 6,000,000.00 \$ 1,000,000.00		
III	Kristo Rai - Micro Beach	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 4 - Roundabout	PE Design Construction CM		\$ 1,000,000.00 \$ 200,000.00		
III	Dandan	35	Route 35 - Airport Road Improvement	PE Design Construction CM-DPW	\$ 2,500,000.00			
III	Obyan	302/304	Naftan Road and Flametree Road Improvements	Env. Update Construction CM	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00 \$ 300,000.00		
III	Capitol Hill	310	Route 310 Tapochao Road and drainage Improvements	PE Design Construction CM	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00 \$ 150,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00 \$ 150,000.00	
III	Gualo Rai	317	Route 317 - Gualo Rai Road and Drainage Improvements	PE Design Construction CM-DPW			\$ 1,500,000.00	
	Island-Wide		Island-Wide Hazard Elimination, Saipan	Construction			\$ 1,500,000.00	
TOTAL OBLIGATION					\$ 4,053,486.00	\$ 19,175,104.20	\$ 9,339,486.00	\$ 1,701,986.00
Estimated Carry Over Prior Fiscal Year TOTAL:					\$ 603,225.00	\$ 20,813,805.99	\$ 5,682,001.79	\$ 385,815.79
FMIS Unobligated Funds (Closed-Out Projects/De-obligated Funds)					\$ 20,220,766.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OJTSS/NSTI					\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00
Annual Allocation:					\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00
TOTAL ALLOCATION (not including Other Funds)					\$ 24,867,291.99	\$ 24,857,105.99	\$ 9,725,301.79	\$ 4,429,115.79
TOTAL OBLIGATION (not including other funds)					\$ 4,053,486.00	\$ 19,175,104.20	\$ 9,339,486.00	\$ 1,701,986.00
FISCAL ALLOCATION TO HQ (Not including Other Funds)					\$ 20,813,805.99	\$ 5,682,001.79	\$ 385,815.79	\$ 2,727,129.79
TOTAL ALLOCATION - other (ER, Special Funds, etc.)								

NAVFAC recognizes 2021 Engineers of the Year in the Pacific

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific congratulates the 2021 civilian and military engineers of the year in the Pacific Area of Operations.

The 14 winners representing NAVFAC Pacific, Far East, Hawaii, Marianas, Northwest, Southwest, and Officer in Charge of Construction Marine Corps Marianas include:

■ Shannon Kimoto, civilian engineer of the year from NAVFAC Pacific;

■ Lt. Jonathan Zisko, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Pacific;

■ Michael Ishibashi, civilian engineer of the year from NAVFAC Far East;

■ Lt. Cmdr. Christian Auger, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Far East;

■ Dr. Gaur Johnson, civilian engineer of the year from NAVFAC Hawaii;

■ Cmdr. Darrel Frame, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Hawaii;

■ Lee Enzastiga, civilian engineer of the year from NAVFAC Marianas;

■ Lt. Mark Bush, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Marianas;

■ David Gibson, civilian engineer of the year from NAVFAC Northwest;

■ Lt. Corey Devonis, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Northwest;

■ Dr. Michael Fraser, civilian engineer of the year from

NAVFAC Southwest;

■ Cmdr. Peter Benson, military engineer of the year from NAVFAC Southwest;

■ Jason Jaskowiak, civilian engineer from OICC MCM; and

■ Cmdr. Dennis La, military engineer from OICC MCM.

"Please join me in congratulating the 14 NAVFAC Pacific Area of Operations awardees for their hard work and continued engineering contributions to NAVFAC, the Navy, and our Nation," said NAVFAC Pacific commander Rear Adm. John Adametz. "The impressive accomplishments these individuals have achieved are representative of the outstanding engineering talent within our Systems Com-

mand. I am so proud to have them on our team, and would like to extend my personal thanks and congratulations for all of their efforts. Hard-earned and well-deserved!"

These employees were selected based on education, professional registration, continuing education, professional and technical society activities, National Society of Professional Engineers involvement, awards and honors, civic and humanitarian activities and engineering achievements.

"The NAVFAC Pacific AO recently completed a banner year of workload execution

and I'm extremely proud of the significant contributions and accomplishments by each of our winners," said NAVFAC Pacific Design and Construction Business Line Director and Chief Engineer Marc Wong. "They have undoubtedly improved the lethality of the Navy through their technical contributions and helped to strengthen NAVFAC's role as the Navy's Shore Facilities System Command."

NAVFAC participates in the NSPE Federal Engineer of the Year Award program to recognize exceptional contributions our federal engineers make to

the engineering profession, to our Supported Commanders, and to the communities they serve. From the award winners from each field command, NAVFAC selects a civilian and military engineer of the year. These two individuals are each then nominated as the NAVFAC candidates for the prestigious NSPE Federal Engineer of the Year award.

The awards ceremony will be held on Feb. 18, 2021, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. at which time NSPE will announce the 2021 Federal Engineer of the Year. (USN)

\$14M grant to support Pacific Islander cancer research



Pacific Island Partnership for Cancer Health Equity leaders at a Program Steering Committee Meeting in February 2019 at the University of Guam. From left, Neal A. Palafox, University of Hawaii Cancer Center; Engelberta Thompson; Helen Whippy; Carl Vogel, UHCC; Katsuri Warnakulasuriya; Rachael Leon Guerrero, University of Guam; Margaret Hattori-Uchima, UOG; and Steve Patierno.

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

The University of Guam and the University of Hawaii Cancer Center were each awarded five-year grants totaling more than \$14 million to mitigate the impact of cancer on Pacific Islanders through cancer research, career training, and community outreach. The collaboration between the two universities, known as the Pacific Island Partnership for Cancer Health Equity, will be funded by the National Cancer Institute through Aug. 31, 2025.

Funds from the PIPCHE are used to support the research infrastructure needed to address significant cancer health disparities in the Pacific.

"PIPCHE has been truly transformational for research here at UOG for this region," said Rachael Leon Guerrero, Ph.D., RD, co-principal investigator of the grant and vice provost of research and sponsored programs at the University of Guam. "Before PIPCHE, there was very little cancer and health-related research occurring of relevance to Guam's population. Now we have multiple federal research grants studying cancer, child obesity, cardiometabolic health, and dementia."

PIPCHE is the only NCI-funded, Pacific-based partnership that addresses cancer disparities in the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, and other U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands, which include the CNMI, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau. It also provides research training for students and early career scientists while engaging communities in outreach activities to advance knowledge, awareness, behavior change and public health policy in Guam and Hawaii.

"We use cancer research as a platform to bring equity and resiliency to the indigenous Pacific peoples," said Neal A. Palafox, M.D., MPH, a UH Cancer Center researcher and the principal investigator of the grant at UHCC. "... The investment has brought forward indigenous Pacific cancer researchers and scientific leaders, relevant Pacific-based interventions to address cancer disparities, and has increased the capacity for both institutions to understand and achieve cancer health equity in the Pacific."

The first PIPCHE grant was awarded to the University

of Guam and the UH Cancer Center in 2003. Since then, the funds have supported 25 research projects, trained more than 100 underrepresented students and early career scientists, contributed more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, and, in the last cycle alone, acquired more than \$34 million in additional external funds to explore research questions that are unique to the Pacific region.

"The 17 years have been a fun and eye-opening voyage," Palafox said.

Cancer prevention and control in the Pacific are shared missions between the UH Cancer Center, the University of Guam, and their collaborators. The PIPCHE provides a platform to do much more than either institution can accomplish alone.

The efforts of this partnership are directed by Leon Guerrero and Palafox as well as UOG School of Health Dean Margaret Hattori-Uchima, Ph.D., RN, and UH Cancer Center Director Randall Holcombe, M.D., MBA, together with a team of more than 50 investigators and staff at the partnering institutions. (PR)

MCS observes Citizenship Day today

Alongside many citizens and residents of the CNMI, Mount Carmel School observes the holiday noting the day the people of the CNMI became U.S. citizens on Nov. 4, 1986. Through this holiday Mount Carmel School is able to acknowledge the CNMI's history from first becoming a U.S. Commonwealth 10 years prior, to becoming citizens of the United States of America.

Mount Carmel School takes pride in the rich history the CNMI possesses and continues to establish after sustaining many obstacles over the years such as multiple typhoons and super-typhoons as well as the most recent obstacle, the response to the global COVID-19 outbreak. Despite these many obstacles Mount Carmel School continues to proceed with providing education with certain safety precautions, allowing the school community to continue educating and having efforts to honor many special holidays such as Citizenship Day through various means.

Social Studies teacher Jona-



Mount Carmel School students place their hands on their hearts in observance of Citizenship Day.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

than Sanchez said, "I do go over the U.S. Constitution in my class and we go over the rights that are given to us as citizens. I think that a good way to celebrate Citizenship Day would be having safe little gatherings where people share their political ideas and opinions (peacefully preferably) and to understand each view."

MCS senior Brandee Hunter said, "Citizenship Day has been a celebrated and encouraged holiday at MCS, as we are people from different

countries united together under one country."

Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD, said, "Citizenship Day is a significant holiday for the school because we have employees that work hard to become a part of the American family. It's only right that, as a Catholic school, we help our employees achieve these monumental goals so that they can focus on the good work that they do each and every day for their students." (PR)



THANK YOU

Mount Carmel School thanks CNMI Board of Education chair Janice Tenorio for donating hand sanitizers for MCS students and employees.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SPOTLIGHT

By WALT GOODRIDGE
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Doing justice to gratitude

Sometimes, true gratitude—the sincere, heartfelt thankfulness that recognizes the fragile, and seemingly random threads connecting the past decisions and actions of one individual with the present outcomes of another—is best expressed and conveyed in person. No letter will suffice, nor will any phone call, email or text do it justice. Such gratitude often requires that thanker and thankee be able to look each other in the eyes and, perhaps, share a handshake or a hug. This is a tale of such gratitude. The characters include World War II veterans living in the U.S. mainland, and the descendant of two Chamorro children on the island of Guam.

Once upon a time...

Lloyd C. Glick was 17 years old in 1941 when news of the Pearl Harbor invasion broke. His sense of duty prompted him to enlist in the Navy, and he found himself serving as Musician First Class on the USS North Carolina, a battleship that would be part of the shelling of several Japanese-controlled islands, including Saipan and Guam.

Seventy-five years and a lifetime later, Lloyd and his wife, Judy, were booked on a cruise that would dock on both Guam and Saipan in July 2014. They contacted me on the island of Saipan to give them tours of both islands, and during the months of planning via email, I realized Lloyd had an amazing story to tell. So, unbeknownst to him, I organized and edited the stories he had been sharing about his years at sea and presented a book titled *From Bugle Boy to Battleship: A Battle of Saipan & Guam Veteran's Memoir*, that I presented to him in surprise ceremonies in Guam and on Saipan and subsequently published on Amazon.

Fast forward another six years, and out of the blue, I received an email from a Chamorro of Guamanian extraction living in California:

Hello Lloyd & Walt,

My name is Johnny G. and I am originally from Guam but now live in California. Your book, From Bugle Boy to Battleship, came in the mail yesterday. I will be in the Southern California area this Saturday and Sunday, and I am hoping I can meet up with you to have you sign it. Please let me know your thoughts. Thank you.

p.s. My parents are both Chamorro, born on Guam right before the island was invaded and captured on 12/8/41. Both were still small children when the island was



Superior Court judge Johnny C. Gogo shows challenge coin and autographed copy of *Bugle Boy to Battleship* by Lloyd Glick as told to Walt F.J. Goodridge.

liberated in 1944. My father eventually enlisted in the military and served 20 plus years with the Air Force and Army. I have had a deep sense of respect, gratitude and admiration for those who have served in our military.

I put Johnny in touch with Lloyd, the two kept in touch after initial plans fell through, and they eventually met up. I spoke with Johnny a few days afterwards.

Walt: Where [in] Guam were you born?

Johnny: Well, I was actually born in Germany. Both my parents were born [in] Guam, but my father enlisted in the military shortly after he graduated from high school [in] Guam, and ultimately, I was born in an army hospital in Germany.

W: Do you have brothers and sisters, and when did you actually come to Guam?

J: My parents had a total of five kids. My oldest sister was born [in] Guam, but my older brother was born in Japan. I'm the third child. My younger brother was also born in Germany, and my youngest sister was born on an army base in Kentucky. As a military family, we moved around quite a bit and were stationed [in] Guam two times. The one time that I have memories of was from 1977 to 1980. The family left Guam in 1980, and I was the only one of our family who went back there to live for a few years before ultimately coming back to California.

W: How did you stumble upon the book *From Bugle Boy to Battleship*?

J: Because of my father, I had a general interest in United States military history and was influenced by movies I watched as a young boy. In

the current COVID situation, I, like a lot of people who are sheltering in place, have been doing a lot of reading and television watching. I was watching a show called *American Pickers*, about folks who travel the United States going through people's garages, barns and warehouses [to buy or "pick" various items for resale]. In doing so, they talk about the history of the items and different time periods. I thought to myself, "I wonder what kind of Guam history stuff is out there that I might be interested in?"

I started doing research on the internet about the history of Guam and focused on World War II and the period right afterwards. [One book led to another]...and I got a hold of Peter Marshall's book, *1368 Days: An American POW in WWII Japan*, and found out he was still alive. He's now 100 years old. I was able to find his contact information, reached

out to his family and asked if I could come visit. I mean, he's a living piece of history. Fortunately, I was able to get out to Arizona and meet up with Pete and his daughter and son-in-law. He was able to share a few of his stories with me. That started the current mission I'm on, which is to track down living WWII veterans and others who served and helped liberate Guam.

As far as your book, I did a Google search about WWII veterans and I found a 2019 *Guam Pacific Daily News* article that included a video with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Superior Court judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo conveys his gratitude to Battle of Guam and Battle of Saipan veteran Lloyd Coulson Glick (Huntington Beach, CA; October 2020)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lloyd and Judy Glick flank author Walt Goodridge upon the couple's 2014 trip to the CNMI (Lloyd's first return to the region since 1944).

Lloyd Glick, Ray Faulkner, and Gordy Rosengren. I said to myself, "I've gotta try and track these three guys down." Somehow, I ended up finding and ordering your book, got it in the mail, read through it and thought it was a great read. Thankfully, you included an email address for Lloyd, and ultimately, I was able to meet him and his wife Judy this past weekend! So, thank you for that.

W: You're welcome. How's your quest coming along?

J: I've been able to connect with a few amazing individuals. I flew to Montana to meet and talk with Gene Bell. Another gentleman, "CB Bill" Kelly, I was able to visit him in Oregon. [Note: Bill Kelly, diagnosed with

COVID-19 earlier this year, is quoted in a May 2020 militarytimes.com article: "I survived the foxholes of Guam, I can get through this coronavirus bulls—t," according to granddaughter, Rose Etherington. He has since recovered. CB=Construction Battalion] Thus far, I have met five WWII veterans in person, and there are approximately eight others I am trying to contact/track down.

W: Wow! Are you documenting these meetings? What's the long-term plan? A book?

J: Well, this is really just a

personal passion—a personal mission—to thank them for saving the lives of my parents who were small children at the time, and for helping save the residents of Guam. I do take pictures of my visits, but I also have a Guam flag I've been asking these veterans to sign. I plan to display the flag, and ultimately I'll probably bring it back to Guam and see if someone wants to put it in a museum. Because I am Chamorro, I want it known that not only are the island and the people thankful to the U.S. forces who liberated the island, but I also want to recognize the survivors of the [Japanese] occupation—those who were alive between 1941 and 1944—who are still alive today. I'd be honored to have them sign my flag too.

W: Have you learned anything you can share with the people of Saipan and Guam?

J: I wish I had started my journey 20 years ago when a lot more folks were still with us. For me to meet with them and chat with them for just a little bit, to get to know them, I think it makes them feel proud about their service to the nation and to the people of Guam. I don't want to re-traumatize any of these folks, but for the most part, the soldiers I've met have good memories about Guam. In fact, Gene Bell, who I mentioned earlier, has been to Guam 21 times over the years. He's not only a veteran of the military, he's

also a veteran of Guam's liberation festivities.

W: I understand Lloyd gave you a special coin, correct?

J: Yeah, that was pretty cool! Lloyd gave me a "Challenge Coin" that shows he's a Navy veteran and that he served on the USS North Carolina. In return, I gave Lloyd one of my Superior Court pins as a token of my appreciation.

That bit of coin-swapping information provides the perfect segue to another question I had for Johnny:

W: By the way, Johnny, what do you currently do for a living?

J: Well, I am currently a Superior Court judge. I was appointed in December 2019 to the California bench.

And that's where I'll pause this story with a thought. One might argue that the decisions and actions of people like Lloyd Glick and Gene and Ray and Peter and the many others who served and gave their lives for the liberation of Guam and Saipan provided a critical span in the threads of stories of families all around the world. One could argue, for instance, that Lloyd Glick's decision on Dec 7, 1941, to enlist and provide the much needed morale boost to sailors on the USS North Carolina led in part to the outcome on Dec 6, 2019, when Johnny Cepeda Gogo raised his right hand to be sworn in as judge of the Santa Clara County Superior Court.

Perhaps Johnny Gogo, former student at C.L. Taitano Elementary, former altar boy at St. Jude Church in Sinajana, and now a judge in the U.S., appreciates more than most the power that a single decision on the right side of history can make, and the strength that in-person testimony can have in making or breaking a case, and is perhaps why he's chosen this unique way of expressing gratitude. I'll leave that speculation to the reader. I, for one, have already reached my verdict.

To sum things up:

Everybody else: "It's a shame there's no unique way to thank the Guam liberators so they really feel our appreciation..."

Johnny Gogo: "Hold my beer..."

Lloyd Glick turns 97 this Dec. 28! Wish him well and convey thanks at lloyd@bugleboyglick.com. Contact Justice Johnny C. Gogo at jgogo@scscourt.org. Photos of Lloyd's visits to Saipan (2014) and Guam (2014, 2019) are at www.bugleboyglick.com.

Walt F.J. Goodridge is the author of over 24 books including Saipan Now, There's Something About Saipan, and Chicken Feathers & Garlic Skin. Learn more at www.bestofsaipan.com; email walt@bestofsaipan.com.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Don't let COVID-19 hitchhike home from campus

The dilemma faced by the Sadowskys is one shared by many families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanksgiving looms in just a few weeks. While Sue and Alan Sadowsky's eldest daughter can't make it, their youngest daughter, a medical student in Chicago, wants to come home for the holiday. Although the Twin Cities couple was wary of the visit, they "couldn't stomach" saying no.

The trade-off for getting to yes? Clear rules to contain the virus. Quarantining and getting a COVID test before hitting the road. Once at home, strict social distancing, wearing a mask even inside the house, and frequently disinfecting household surfaces. If their daughter wants to go see friends, the couple told her she had to stay with her friends for the rest of her visit before returning to Chicago.

What Sue Sadowsky calls their "little pod" approach isn't ideal, but it's the responsible thing to do to protect themselves and others. "We know it's not foolproof, but we are doing everything we possibly can," she said.

The precautions outlined may seem stringent, but few families have as much in-house expertise as the Sadowskys. Alan Sadowsky is a physician, and the couple's eldest daughter is, too. Their thoughtful plan combines medical knowledge and parenting experience, and should inspire others when it comes to safely welcoming home a student.

As the pandemic worsens in the U.S., the homefront has become the front line against the virus. Daily case numbers nationally and in the Midwest have hit new highs, and hospitalizations have risen sharply. Universities, students, families—all have a vital role to play in stopping viral spread.

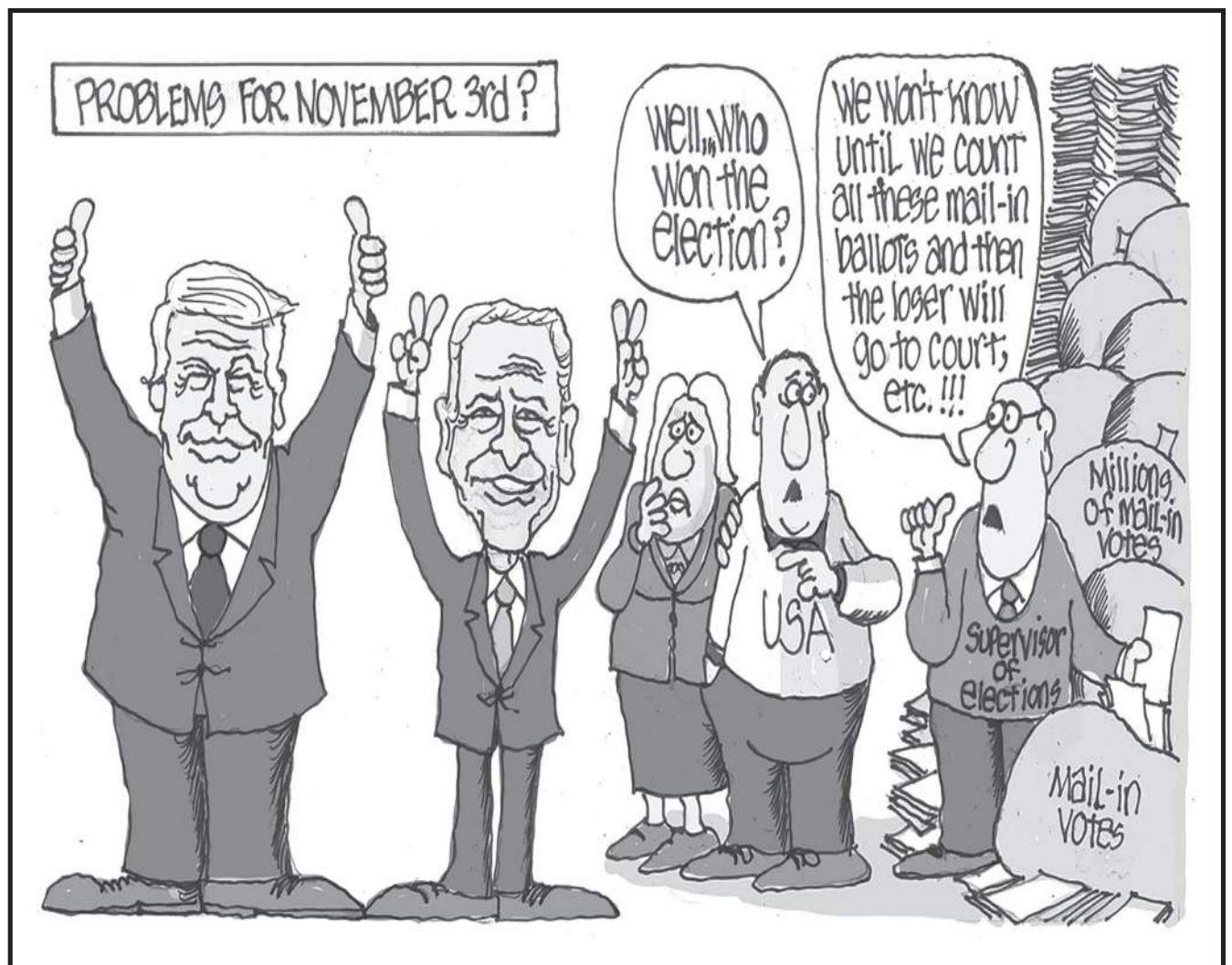
Too many college towns across the nation became COVID hot spots this fall when dorms reopened. While those in their late teens and early 20s don't usually become seriously ill, they can spread the virus to those who are more vulnerable.

Thankfully, new data suggests students here are taking precautions. Case numbers have declined at Minnesota's colleges and universities over the past month, according to a Star Tribune report. But many students go to school elsewhere, and the virus has proved its ability to hitchhike with travelers.

Universities across the nation should be prepping students and families now for safe departure, particularly since quarantining for at least 14 days before leaving is best. For example, Iowa State University officials told an editorial writer that they are "working on plans for semester-end testing." Others, such as the State University of New York system, will require a negative COVID test before students leave.

In Minnesota, health officials have not recommended requiring a test for students at the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State campuses. One reason that a test is just

See COVID-19 on Next Page



War veteran: Principles belong to people, not political parties

As veterans, we were taught during our military training that if we find ourselves lost in battle, listen for the gunfire, then run toward it. For most civilians this is counterintuitive—deliberately putting yourself in harm's way. Yet for service members, that's where your brothers and sisters are, and they need help.

As veterans we understand what it means to serve others, to have an overriding purpose and mission that is greater than any one of us. We came together to serve from all over the country and the world, but we all raised our right hands and swore to defend the same Constitution. We came from different backgrounds, worshipped God in different ways and had different colors of skin, but we learned to see beyond all that. We learned to do so because the more time we spent with each other, the less those differences mattered. Those differences made us stronger. They made us better. For us, that is precisely what *e pluribus unum* means. Out of many, we became one.

We were taught the importance of honor and integrity and that the greatest trait a leader can possess is character. We were taught the importance of doing the harder right instead of the easier wrong. The harder right. We're given that challenge because moral courage doesn't come easy. To be morally courageous is to perpetually look at the paths we have before us and consistently choose the right path, especially when it's difficult. It's a challenge to our own integrity, to take the path we know to be right because it's a matter of principle.

Principles don't belong to a political party, they belong to us. The values and principles that were imprinted upon us in the military made us better leaders; leaders who have an obligation to instill those values and principles in others. We can teach others what it means to do the harder right because leadership is not about cutting corners and shunning responsibility. Leadership is about setting the example for others to make them want to be better themselves. That is what leadership is supposed to be.

Yet, for too long we have glorified those who believe leadership to be synonymous with swagger and bluster. They decry violence on the streets of America, yet by their own conduct have encouraged it. They purposefully exploit our differences so that we confront others not as fellow citizens, but as enemies to be subjugated and conquered. Using worn out slogans and obsolete dogmas they cling to a vision of America where our greatness

By **GABRIEL GOUGH**
The Baltimore Sun

Gabriel Gough (gabe.gough21@gmail.com) served as a special assistant and adviser to three secretaries of Veterans Affairs. He is a veteran of the war in Iraq where he was awarded a Bronze Star for Valor and holds a master's degree in international relations from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service.



resides in some distant past, not on the horizon before us. It is a sordid leadership, devoid of character, that sends us searching for scapegoats and conspiracies and only with a reckoning in our own hearts can we begin to cleanse this sickness from our souls. We must have the courage to admit that these are not the actions of a leader. This is not leadership.

Like the veterans of the World War II and Vietnam generations before us, our time to lead has come. Whether we're coaching our children's softball teams, working to better our communities or choosing to run for office ourselves, we can all play our part reminding others that we are more than our differences, that the greatness of our country cannot be built upon the shattered dreams of other human beings. The greatness of our country can only be built upon the character of its citizens. This goal, this common purpose, we can all work toward instilling in others. We are all uniquely qualified to begin helping heal the wounds of division that have been inflicted upon us to show that we are all brothers, sisters and countrymen in this great land of ours.

Like a freight train, history is barreling fast toward us; it will lay a heavy hand. If we choose to be mere spectators in the arena, then years from now when our grandchildren ask what we did at this moment in history, our inaction, our indifference will consume our souls. We'll know we chose to look the other way when our consciences demanded otherwise.

The challenge we face is finding enough of us who have the courage to stand up and say, "Not on my watch." So take a moment and listen to the world around you. If you can hear the sounds of gunfire in the not too far-off distance, then what are you waiting for? Can you fight?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The second plague

Scholars have long pondered how a democracy deals with war. Can we remain free if we conscript and establish central control? Can we fight and win a war if the people are fully informed of the horrors of war and every family sends a son or daughter to the fight?

We now face the question of how an open and democratic society deals with a pandemic.

Do we exercise command authority and shut whole economies down?

Vice President Mike Pence said recently that he and the president fundamentally believe in leaving how people deal with the pandemic, at Thanksgiving, for example, up to them. Let individual Americans figure this out on their own. Let them make their own calculations. For the variables are different for each person and family and the situation is vastly different from city to city, state to state, though COVID-19 seems to now be spiking almost everywhere.

That's my gut reaction, too: Let people figure this out for themselves. Most will do what is right and responsible, even at great personal cost. I recently met a man who forswore his income for the first four months of COVID-19 because he is diabetic and has heart issues. No one at work was social distancing or wearing a mask in April.

And yet the libertarian model does not quite work here, does it? If ever most of us needed decent information, guidance and direct aid, from the government, it is now.

It also strikes me that this is a time for the nation to embrace its "vital center" and not its farthest wings. We are often a nation of reaction. Going from Bush to Obama to Trump, for example, is like going from an all-meat diet, to all greens, to all carbs.

And the extremes are often exaggerated and empowered by hard times. Demagogues were plentiful during the Great Depression. Antifa and the Proud Boys are on the march now.

We are sometimes reactionaries as individuals as well. We all know people who will not wear a mask and others who will not leave home. I know people who will not visit in a home—two and two people, together—or go to church, but will get on a flight to Mexico. They somehow embody both fear and recklessness.

We are a people of extremes: puritanical and profane; censoring and incontinent of flesh and image; conspicuously religious and utterly self-obsessed.

This is a time to seek balance. The government should seek it and each of us, as individuals, should.

Life in a cave or a basement is impossible. Life without risk is not life. But we must calculate the risk. We can engage in a level of risk that is reasonable.

Reasonableness, and not passion, is the needed medicine right now. The other medicine needed is mutual respect.

We have to have a little faith in each other to get through the second plague.

We have to get through the crisis of division and mutual detestation that ails us.

We could start by pledging to each other that all Americans will accept the result of the current presidential election: Whoever is elected president will be accepted as legitimate. We will not riot or defame each other. And we will move forward together—until the next electoral contest.

Once Americans, of all persuasions, could be assumed to share certain basic values: Love of the country—its land, its soldiers and its creed, that all men and women are equal in the sight of the maker.

We now need to reestablish some common rules of the road, ones that we can all agree on—no matter what. How about: We renounce violence. We will not shut down speech we disagree with. We will all respect the offices, institutions and customs of the republic.

We have to have a little faith in each other, and in our system.

Donald Trump said a great thing the other day. He said: The American people are smarter than the elites that lead and inform them.

Joe Biden said something great, too. He said there is no contradiction between trying to create opportunity for those who have not had it and supporting the police. Both, he said, are about dignity.

We will survive COVID-19. The herd, so called, will get stronger; ameliorative drugs will be found; and then a vaccine will be discovered, and made available to us all.

I have no doubt that this will happen.

By **KEITH C. BURRIS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



Keith C. Burris is editor, vice president and editorial director of Block Newspapers (kburris@post-gazette.com).

But how to survive the pandemic of loathing that so many Americans feel toward each other and the leaders of the "other" tribe? How do we build immunity to hate? Where will we find the vaccine?

"A house divided against itself cannot stand," said Abraham Lincoln, echoing Jesus of Nazareth. It took 100 years to heal from the Civil War and just as long to begin to march toward justice. The healing and the progress, not coincidentally, came together. Martin Luther King Jr.—aided by a whole movement of civil and religious leaders of all colors and faiths, a progressive Congress, and a president from Texas who said and thought a lot of backward things, but wanted the country to heal and move forward—took us past anger and hate into mercy, justice and love.

King always tied himself to the American founders, flawed though they were, because they built a solid house—a house where no one man, party or power gets the final word or prevails in the final sense. Separation of powers and federalism enforce gridlock, say some critics. They also force dialogue.

And yet, let's be honest, the house seems not so solid right now. The earth below its foundation is rumbling. And there is no voice like King's on the scene.

Sen. Eugene McCarthy said that the capacity for leadership exists in every American and that reason is the only true medicine in public life.

These are the vaccines for surviving the second plague: reasonableness and mutual respect.

Time to prepare for an even more deadly pandemic

By **THOMAS J. BOLLYKY** and **STEWART M. PATRICK**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The winner of the presidential election, whether that is Donald Trump or Joe Biden, will need to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic—the worst international health emergency since the 1918 influenza outbreak—and also begin preparing the United States and the world for the next pandemic.

Think it is too soon to worry about another pandemic? World leaders have called the coronavirus outbreak a "once-in-100-year" crisis, but there is no reason to expect that to be true. A new outbreak could easily evolve into the next epidemic or a pandemic that spreads worldwide. As lethal as this coronavirus has been, a novel influenza could be worse, transmitting even more easily and killing millions more people.

Better preparation must begin with an unvarnished assessment of what has gone wrong in the U.S. and in the global response to the current pandemic and what can be done to prepare for the next one when it strikes, as it inevitably will.

Preparedness needs to start with investment. Despite multiple

recent threats, from SARS (2003) to H5N1 (2007) to H1N1 (2009) to Ebola (2013-2016); many blue ribbon reports and numerous national intelligence assessments; international assistance for pandemic preparedness has never amounted to more than 1% of overall international aid for health.

The United States devoted an even smaller share of its foreign aid budget in 2019—\$374 million out of \$39.2 billion—to prepare for a pandemic that has now cost the country trillions of dollars. Meanwhile, funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's support to states and territories has fallen by more than a quarter since 2002. Over the last decade, local public health departments have cut 56,360 staff positions because of lack of resources.

Preparation isn't only about investing more money. It is also about embracing the public health fundamentals that allowed some nations to move rapidly and aggressively against the coronavirus. The United States has been hard hit by this pandemic, but all countries were dealt this hand.

But we can do better. Here are four measures, outlined in a new report from the Council on Foreign Relations, that would make Americans and the rest of the world safer.

First, the United States must remain a member of the World Health Organization, while working to reform it from within. The agency is hardly perfect, but it prompted China to notify the world of the coronavirus and it has coordinated the better-than-expected response to the pandemic in developing nations. Yet, the agency has no authority to make member states comply with their obligations and less than half of the annual budget of New York-Presbyterian Hospital. The WHO needs more dedicated funding for its Health Emergencies Program and should be required to report when governments fail to live up to their treaty commitments.

Second, we need a new global surveillance system to identify pandemic threats, one that is less reliant on self-reporting by early affected nations. An international sentinel surveillance network, founded on health care facilities rather than governments, could regularly share hospitalization data, using anonymized patient information. Public health agencies in nations participating in this

network, including the CDC, can assess that data, identify unusual trends and more quickly respond to emerging health threats.

The U.S. should take the lead in forming a coalition to work alongside the WHO to develop this surveillance network. We should also work with like-minded G-20 partners, as well as private organizations, in this coalition to reduce unnecessary trade and border restrictions; increase the sharing of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics; and work with international financial institutions to provide foreign aid and debt relief packages to hard-hit nations.

Third, responding to a deadly contagion requires a coordinated national approach. Too often in this pandemic, in the absence of federal leadership, states and cities competed for test kits and scarce medical supplies and adopted divergent policies on reopening their economies. The next administration needs to clarify the responsibilities of the federal government, states and 2,634 local and tribal public health departments in pandemic preparedness and response. Elected leaders, starting with the president, must also put public health officials at the forefront of communicating science-based guidance and defend those officials from political attacks.

Finally, the U.S. must do better by its most exposed and vulnerable citizens. More than 35% of deaths in the U.S. from COVID-19 have been nursing home residents. Many others have been essential workers, who are disproportionately Black and Latinx and from low-income communities. Federal, state and local governments should direct public health investments to these groups as a matter of social justice and preparedness for future threats.

All of this will require leadership and marshaling support at home and abroad. The next president need not be doomed to replay this current catastrophe—provided he acts on the tragic lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thomas J. Bollyky is director of the global health program and Stewart M. Patrick is director of the global governance program at the Council on Foreign Relations. They are co-directors of the bipartisan CFR-sponsored Independent Task Force on Preparing for the Next Pandemic.

COVID-19

From Page 8

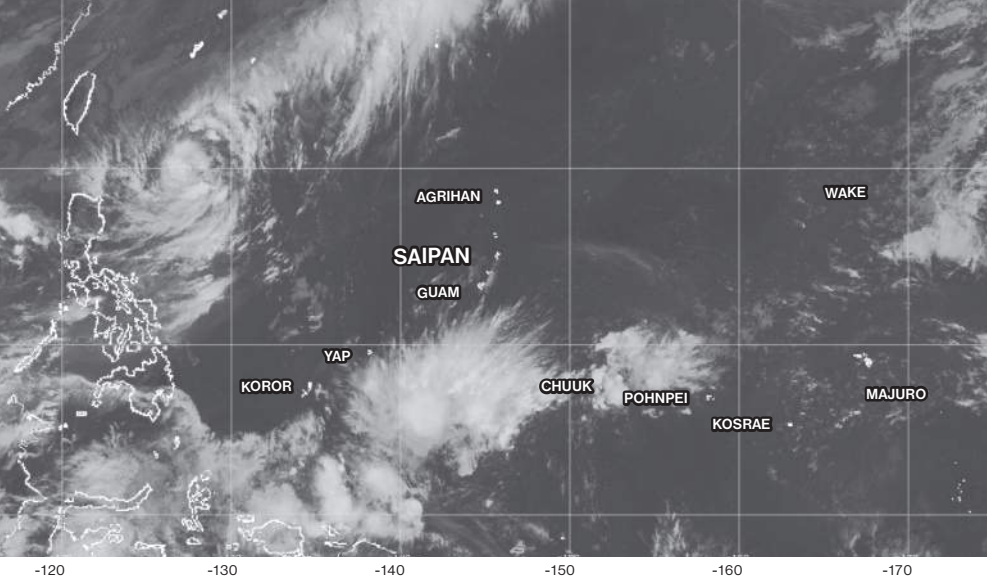
a snapshot in time, and a negative may be incorrectly interpreted as a license to abandon precautions.

However, state health officials are underscoring the importance of students quarantining for 14 days before leaving campus and wearing masks at home. Other guidance is available at tinyurl.com/covid-campuses. In addition, a University of Minnesota spokesman said that a COVID-19 saliva testing program for students will launch soon, "through which every student on each of our five campuses has access to one free (mail-in) saliva test."

The holidays should spread cheer, not COVID. Plan now to make it so.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:58 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas waters, mainly to the south and west of Guam. Satellite shows a trade-wind disturbance between Chuuk and Pohnpei which could affect the Marianas Thursday night and Friday. The buoys reveal combined seas of 5 to 7 feet composed of an east-northeast swell of 4 to 5 feet and a north swell of 2 to 3 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°			
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°			
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°			
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°			
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°			
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°			
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°			

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	8:58 AM	8:28 PM
Thursday	-	9:50 AM	9:18 PM
Friday	-	10:43 AM	10:12 PM
Saturday	-	11:35 AM	11:07 PM
Sunday	-	12:25 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Showers	72° / 61°			
Beijing	Showers	77° / 66°			
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°			
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	85° / 75°			
London	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 50°			
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	67° / 57°			
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°			
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 46°			
Miami	Mostly Sunny	81° / 72°			
New York	Mostly Cloudy	72° / 50°			
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	64° / 46°			
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 48°			
Busan	Partly Cloudy	61° / 45°			
Rome	Partly Cloudy	68° / 50°			
Salem	Sunny	79° / 59°			
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	59° / 51°			
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	54° / 34°			
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	70° / 48°			
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	78° / 52°			

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:30 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.20	
10:33 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.67	
4:05 PM	LOW TIDE	1.10	
8:44 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.57	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2020

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:55am	7:35am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:10am	5:51am	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:55am	9:50pm	1 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	5:51am+1	3, 5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5	UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 5

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
ROTA TO GUAM				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Business

DOCOMO Pacific supports PBS with text-to-give campaign

TAMUNING, Guam—DOCOMO Pacific, regional leader in innovation, telecommunications, and entertainment, partners with PBS Guam KGTF Ch.12 in launching a text-to-give campaign to support local educational programming.

PBS Guam KGTF Ch.12 ("PBS Guam") proudly provides 12 full hours of educational kids programming daily. Being a non-profit, the station relies on donations from their supporters. Now more than ever, the station is seeking creative ways to engage its supporters to assist in maintaining their mission of providing quality educational programming to the community.

From now through Jan. 31,

2021, DOCOMO Pacific customers are able to donate to PBS Guam through text. To give today, text "PBS" to 4357 (HELP) for a donation of \$10. 100% of the funds will be donated directly to PBS Guam.

"At PBS Guam we work hard to bring educational and quality local programming to our viewers as well as DOCOMO Pacific's TV subscribers. At the onset of this COVID pandemic, we got to work quickly to support our community by launching the following: 1) PBS University with the Department of Education, 2) PBS Learning Media—an online platform that provides valuable learning resources to children, parents and educators at home, and 3) Our

new PBS Kids 24/7 channel. All of this content is accessible with DOCOMO Pacific services. I thank the team at DOCOMO Pacific for this valuable partnership and look forward to continue servicing the community of Guam," said PBS Guam KGTF Ch.12 general manager Ina Carillo.

For more information on PBS Guam, visit their website at pbsguam.org.

DOCOMO Pacific is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT DOCOMO, Japan's leading mobile operator. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, DOCOMO Pacific is the largest provider of personal, residential, enterprise connectivity and entertainment services in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Named Guam's most reliable network, based on GWS' 2019 OneScore ranking. We are also the 4-time winner of Pika's Best of Guam and 4-time winner of Best of The Pacific. DOCOMO Pacific is dedicated to bringing you and your family closer to the things that matter most. Get to know more about what makes us "Better Together" at www.docomopacific.com. **(PR)**



The DOCOMO Pacific Saipan store in Gualo Rai.

MARK RABAGO

Hong Kong leader to travel to Beijing to seek economic aid

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam will travel to Beijing on Tuesday to meet with Chinese officials to seek help in reviving Hong Kong's economy and discuss reopening the borders with mainland China as coronavirus infections in her city dwindle.

Lam said the meetings, set for Wednesday through Friday, will include discussions on how Hong Kong can integrate into China's national development, as well as how the semi-autonomous Chinese territory can cooperate with Shenzhen — a southern Chinese city that borders Hong Kong — as part of the Greater Bay Area integrated economic scheme.

She also told reporters that she plans to discuss when Hong Kong and mainland China will be able to resume the flow of people across the border without quarantines. Since March, residents in mainland China and Hong Kong have been required to quarantine for two weeks when they cross the border due to the pandemic.

"That is very important to economic activities, from the provision of professional services, visiting relatives and going to schools," Lam said.

Lam's trip to Beijing

comes after she postponed her annual policy address two days before it was scheduled to take place last month, saying that support from Beijing would allow her to give a speech later that would boost confidence in Hong Kong's economic future.

Confidence in Hong Kong's semi-autonomous status, promised to the city when Beijing took back control of the former British colony in 1997, has been shaken since mainland authorities imposed a national security law over the territory this summer. The city's economy has also taken a hit due to the pandemic, with its borders closed to tourists since the end of March.

With regards to the U.S. presidential election, Lam said she expects the next president to evaluate the importance of Hong Kong within China-U.S. relations.

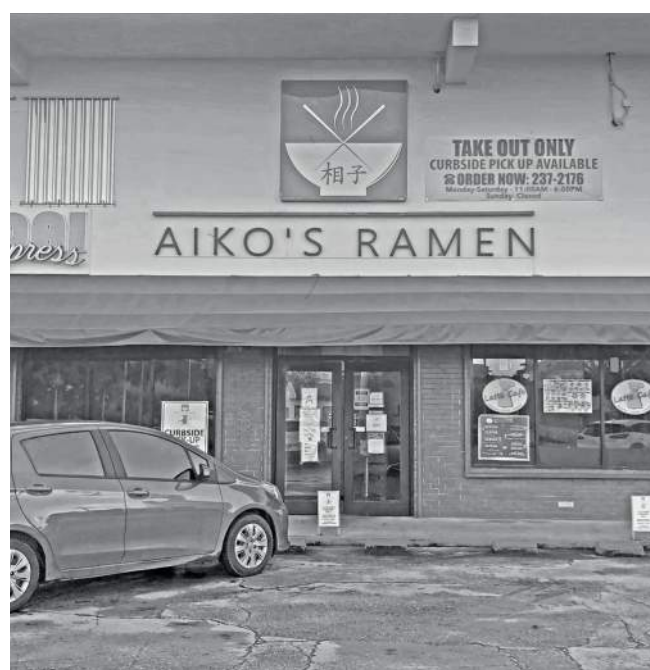
"I hope that the new U.S. administration will handle relations with Hong Kong in a comprehensive way, taking into account the interests of the many U.S. businesses in Hong Kong that employ a lot of people, and will not thoughtlessly allow political considerations to have an unwarranted effect on Hong Kong," she said.

Aiko's Ramen to close Dec. 1

Aiko's Ramen in Susupe will be bowing out on Dec. 1, 2020, after four years of existence, according to a media statement from the Japanese ramen shop's management.

"It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that we announce the closure of Aiko's Ramen effective December 1, 2020. We would like to thank you for your patronage and loyalty these last four years we've been in business," read the statement from Aiko's Ramen management.

Aiko's Ramen opened with much fanfare in November 2016 together with a third Café Latte and the Hafa Adai Express at the Joeten Shopping Center complex in Susupe. It was then thought of as a new concept of convenience shopping tailored for tourists and residents who want a selection of dining and snacking choices in the same building.



MARK RABAGO

Aiko's Ramen in Susupe will closing shop in Dec. 1 after four years in operation.

The ramen shop joins a growing list of business shutdowns in the CNMI, as the COVID-19 pandemic con-

tinues to batter the economy, with the islands' lone industry—tourism—still on the sidelines. Other businesses

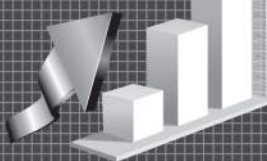
that so far bid the islands goodbye are Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, and Tasty's along Paseo de Marianas.

Top hotels like Grandvrio Hotel, Coral Ocean Point, and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan (World Cafe and Teppanyaki are still open) have also temporarily closed due to lack of tourist reservations. Meanwhile, Kanoa Resort is being used as the CNMI's Alternate Care Site. Local tour and travel companies are also in hiatus.

Aiko's Ramen may be closing its doors, but management said they plan on serving the Japanese ramen shop's products at the locations of its sister-store, Aiko's Deli.

"While we will be closing our restaurant, we are planning to continue offering our fresh ramen at a few of our Aiko's Deli locations. We will inform the community once that is available. Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your business." **(Mark Rabago)**

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

26,925.05
+423.45
1.60%

S&P

3,310.24
+40.28
1.23%

NASDAQ

10,957.61
+46.02
0.42%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4205
British Pound	0.7735
Canadian Dollar	1.3227
Chinese Yuan	6.6007
Euro	0.8578

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7505
Indian Rupee	73.9902
Japanese Yen	104.6760
Malaysian Ringgit	4.1226
New Zealand Dollar	1.5081
Philippine Peso	47.5707

Russian Ruble	78.9951
Singapore Dollar	1.3639
South Korean Won	1113.88
Swiss Franc	0.9177
Taiwan Dollar	28.1458
Thailand Baht	31.0420

Nation

In 2020 finale, Trump combative, Biden on offense

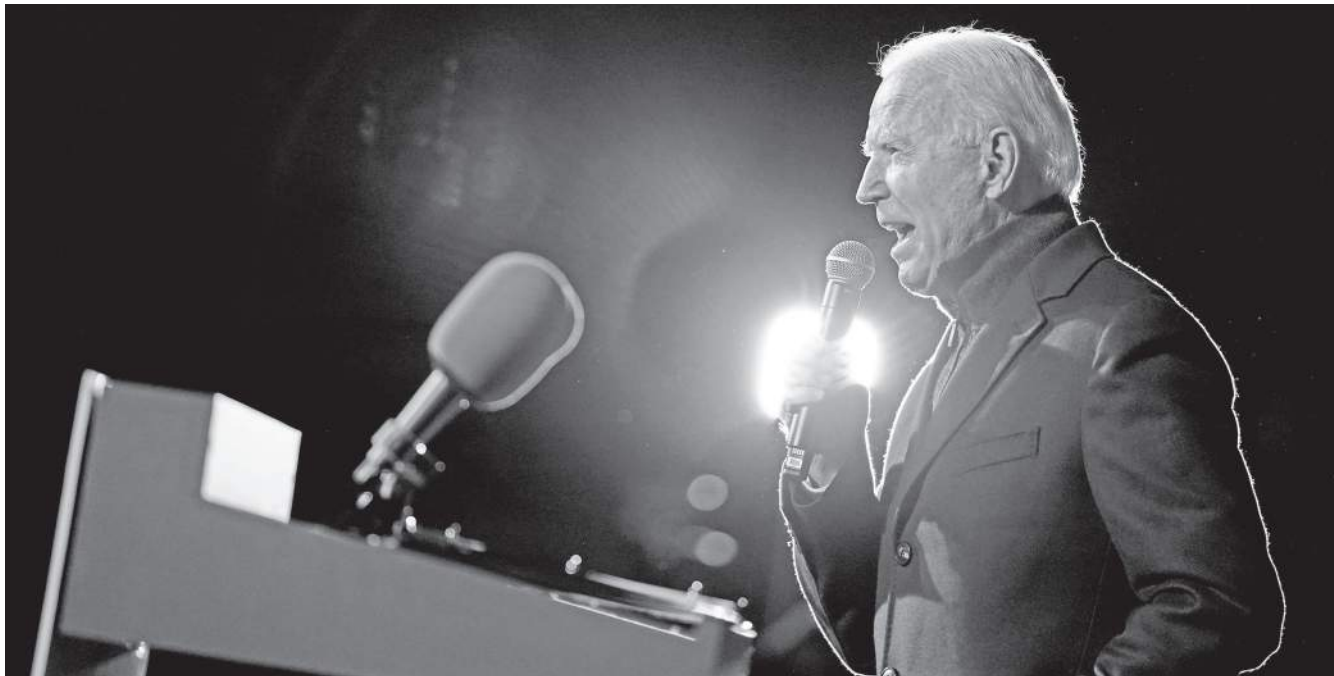
PITTSBURGH (AP)—In the closing hours of a campaign shadowed by a once-in-a-century pandemic, President Donald Trump charged across the nation Monday delivering an incendiary but unsupported allegation that the election is rigged, while Democratic challenger Joe Biden pushed to claim states once seen as safely Republican.

America stood at a crossroads. Never before in modern history have voters faced a choice between candidates offering such opposite visions as the nation confronts a virus that has killed 230,000 Americans, the starkest economic contraction since the Great Depression and a citizenry divided on cultural and racial issues.

The two men broke sharply Monday on the voting process itself while campaigning in the most fiercely contested battleground, Pennsylvania. The president threatened legal action to stop counting beyond Election Day. If Pennsylvania ballot counting takes several days, as is allowed, Trump charged that “cheating can happen like you have never seen.”

Going further, Trump even tweeted about election-related “violence in the streets,” though none has occurred. Asked about it, Biden said “I’m not going to respond to anything he has to say. I’m hoping for a straightforward, peaceful election with a lot of people showing up.”

Biden, earlier in Pittsburgh, delivered a voting rights message to a mostly Black audience, declaring that Trump believes “only wealthy folks should vote” and describing



Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden speaks during a drive-in campaign rally at Lexington Technology Park, Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, in Pittsburgh. AP

COVID-19 as a “mass casualty event for Black Americans.”

“We’re done with the chaos, we’re done with the tweets, the anger, the hate, the failure, the irresponsibility,” said Biden, whose campaign has focused on increasing turnout by Black voters, who could prove the difference in several battleground states.

Both campaigns insist they have a pathway to victory, though Biden’s options for winning the required 270 Electoral College votes are more plentiful. Trump is banking on a surge of enthusiasm from his most loyal supporters in addition to potential legal maneuvers.

Trump spent the final full campaign day sprinting through five rallies, from North Carolina to Pennsylvania to Wisconsin with his final rally, just like four years ear-

lier, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Biden devoted most of his time to Pennsylvania, where a win would leave Trump with an exceedingly narrow path. He also dipped into Ohio, a show of confidence in a state that Trump won by 8 percentage points four years ago.

Biden emphasized the pandemic. He declared that “the first step to beating the virus is beating Donald Trump,” and he promised he would retain the nation’s leading infectious disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, whom the president has talked of firing.

Trump in Grand Rapids insisted that the nation was “rounding the turn” on the virus. But Dr. Deborah Birx, the coordinator of the White House coronavirus task force, broke with the president Monday and joined a chorus of Trump administration scien-

tists sounding alarm about the current spike in infections.

“We are entering the most concerning and most deadly phase of this pandemic,” Birx wrote in a memo distributed to top administration officials. She added that the nation was not implementing “balanced” measures needed to slow the spread of the virus. One recipient confirmed the contents that were initially reported by The Washington Post.

Trump, meanwhile, made only passing mention of what his aides believe are his signature accomplishments — the nation’s economic rebound, the recent installation of Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett—in favor of a torrent of grievance and combativeness. He angrily decried the media’s coverage of the campaign while complaining that he also was being treated

unfairly by, in no particular order, China, the Electoral College system and rock singer Jon Bon Jovi.

“I have been under siege illegally for three-and-a-half years. I wonder what it would be like if we didn’t have all of this horrible stuff. We’d have a very, very calm situation,” said Trump at an evening rally in Michigan. “People see that we fight and I’m fighting for you. I’m fighting to survive. You have to survive.”

Later in Wisconsin, he stopped himself short in mid-sentence: “This isn’t about—yeah, it is about me, I guess, when you think about it.”

Biden announced an unusual move to campaign on Election Day, saying he would head to Philadelphia and his native Scranton on Tuesday as part of a get-out-the-vote effort. His running mate, Sen.

Kamala Harris, will visit Detroit, a heavily Black city in battleground Michigan, and both of their spouses will hit the road too. Trump told reporters he would be visiting his campaign headquarters in Virginia, and he is also hosting family and friends on Election Night in the East Room of the White House.

Nearly 100 million votes have already been cast, through early voting or mail-in ballots, which could lead to delays in tabulation. Trump has spent months claiming without evidence that the votes would be ripe for fraud and refusing to guarantee that he would honor the election result.

Trump also rallied in Scranton on Monday, underscoring the importance of the state’s vote-rich northeast counties, and zeroed in on the state’s process to count votes. He has used stark terms to threaten litigation to stop the tabulation of ballots arriving after Election Day—counting that is allowed with earlier postmarks in some states.

He has said that “we’re going in with our lawyers” as soon as the polls close in Pennsylvania and on Monday spoke ominously about the Supreme Court decision to grant an extension to count the votes after Tuesday.

“They made a very dangerous situation, and I mean dangerous, physically dangerous, and they made it a very, very bad, they did a very bad thing for this state,” Trump declared. He said of Pennsylvania’s Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf, “Please don’t cheat because we’re all watching. We’re all watching you, Governor.”

US judge blocks Trump immigration rule on public benefits

CHICAGO (AP)—A federal judge in Chicago struck down a key immigration rule Monday that would deny green cards to immigrants who use food stamps or other public benefits, a blow to the Trump administration on the eve of the election.

In a decision that applies nationwide, U.S. District Judge Gary Feinerman rejected the rule that had taken effect recently after the U.S. Supreme Court reversed a hold on the policy following lawsuits. Among other things, Feinerman said the rule violates the Administrative Procedure Act, which makes federal agencies accountable to the public by outlining a detailed process for enacting regulations.

The decision marked the

latest turn in a complex legal battle over the rule that has been among President Donald Trump’s most aggressive steps in overhauling the nation’s immigration system. The Chicago lawsuit, filed by the Illinois Coalition of Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Cook County, was among numerous legal challenges.

Under the Trump administration policy, immigration officials could deny permanent residency to legal immigrants over their use of food stamps, Medicaid, housing vouchers or other public benefits. Green card applicants had to show they wouldn’t be burdens to the country or “public charges.”

Federal law already required those seeking permanent resi-

dency or legal status to prove they wouldn’t be a “public charge.” But the Trump administration rule included a wider range of programs that could disqualify them.

Immigrant rights advocates deemed it a “wealth test,” while public health experts said it would mean poorer health outcomes and rising costs as low-income migrants chose between needed services and their bid to stay in the country legally. Several cities said such a chilling effect was already evident.

Fred Tsao, senior policy counsel for ICIRR, called the rule an “attack” on legal immigration and criticized the way the Trump administration has instituted policies.

“We may or may not get a

new administration,” he said. “If we do, we’d like to see a lot of this damage undone and hopefully some legislative changes that will actually benefit immigrants instead of scaring them away.”

Officials in Cook County, which runs one of the nation’s largest public health systems, argued that when people lack health care coverage, they’re less likely to seek preventative care and rely on more expensive emergency care. That also would increase the risk of communicable diseases.

“As we all continue to be impacted by COVID-19, it is vital that no one is fearful of accessing health care. The court’s decision to block enforcement of the Public Charge Rule re-opens doors

for immigrants to access vital services like health care,” Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle said in a statement.

The U.S. Supreme Court decided in a 5-4 vote in January that the rule could take effect, but enforcement was halted by a federal judge in New York because of the coronavirus pandemic. But by September, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had reversed that hold and the rule took effect nationwide.

The Trump administration has touted the rule as a way to ensure only those who are self-sufficient come to the U.S., one of many steps to try to move the country toward a system that focuses on immigrants’ skills instead

of emphasizing the reunification of families.

Officials with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Services didn’t return messages seeking comment Monday.

If there’s an appeal, there could be another legal wrinkle in the case.

In June, the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Feinerman’s decision blocking enforcement of the rule in Illinois while the merits of the case could be decided. It was a 2-1 decision, with then-Circuit Judge Amy Coney Barrett dissenting. Barrett was confirmed as a Supreme Court justice last month and would have to recuse herself if the case reached the nation’s highest court.

World

PH: 20 dead, thousands of homes damaged in typhoon

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—At least 20 people were killed as Typhoon Goni lashed the Philippines over the weekend, and about 13,000 shanties and houses were damaged or swept away in the eastern island province that was first hit by the ferocious storm, officials said Monday.

Goni blasted into Catanduanes province at dawn Sunday

as a super typhoon with sustained winds of 225 kilometers (140 miles) per hour and gusts of 280 kph (174 mph). But it weakened considerably after making landfall and shifted direction to spare the capital, Manila, before blowing out into the South China Sea.

The Office of Civil Defense said at least 20 people were killed in Catanduanes and

nearby Albay province.

Catanduanes, an island province of more than 260,000 people that is often lashed by Pacific storms, was isolated after losing power and communications due to Goni and another typhoon that had hit a week earlier. But officials there managed to connect to the outside world on Monday after disaster-response authori-

ties flew to the devastated island with satellite phones.

Catanduanes Gov. Joseph Cua and other officials said the typhoon whipped up 5-meter (16-foot) storm surges and damaged or swept away about 13,000 houses. Many residents fled to safety from their homes as the typhoon approached.

More than 66,000 other houses and huts were dam-

aged elsewhere in the region, officials said.

Cua described the onslaught as “severe” and reported that some coastal areas were swamped by frightening storm surges.

About 80% of the electricity posts on the island were toppled and roads linking the province’s 11 towns remained impassable, Cua said.

An army general on the is-

land appealed for more troops to help distribute food packs and water to residents. He added that the army camp was destroyed by the typhoon and soldiers have camped out at the airport, which remained open.

An air force cargo plane was to deliver food packs, drinking water, blankets and other relief goods to the province.

The typhoon also devastated the nearby province of Albay, where heavy rains washed down boulders and mudflows from Mayon Volcano, engulfing about 150 houses in a single community in the town of Guinobatan, Albay Gov. Al Francis Bichara said.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte led an aerial inspection of the typhoon-hit region and briefly visited Guinobatan on his way to Manila on Monday from his southern hometown, officials said. The 75-year-old leader has been criticized for his absences from public view during the coronavirus pandemic and recent storms, but aides say he’s working even when away from the public.

Germany starts ‘wave-breaker’ shutdown as Europe locks down

BERLIN (AP)—Several European countries are tightening restrictions this week, starting with a partial shutdown Monday in Germany, as authorities across the continent scramble to slow a rapid rise in coronavirus infections that threatens to overwhelm their health care systems.

Britain and Austria will follow suit later in the week, closing restaurants, bars and many leisure activities. Italy, Greece and Kosovo also announced new measures. In some places, the new rules—which vary in strictness—are prompting violent protests by people frustrated at once again having to forgo freedoms.

But in many, experts are saying they should have come weeks ago—a reflection of the increasingly difficult balance many countries are struggling

to strike between controlling the virus and boosting already damaged economies.

“We are aware of the frustration, the sense of loss, the tiredness of citizens, also of the anger which is being manifested in these days, by citizens who find themselves living with new limits to their personal freedom,” said Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte, as he defended his government’s decision to order new measures.

Restrictions have been slowly ramping up for weeks in many European countries, but virus cases have continued to rise. There was a sign of hope from hard-hit Belgium, however, where a leading virologist said that “the high-speed train is somewhat easing up.”

Overall, Europe has seen more than 270,000 confirmed virus-related deaths, accord-

ing to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. Experts say case and death figures understate the true toll of the pandemic due to missed cases, limited testing and other reasons.

In Germany, restaurants, bars, theaters, cinemas, gyms and other leisure facilities closed in a four-week “wave-breaker” shutdown that seeks to force daily new infections back down to manageable levels. Germans have been asked not to travel, and hotels are barred from accommodating tourists.

In a worrying sign for a country long praised for its testing and tracing abilities, German officials say they can’t track the source of three-quarters of new coronavirus cases. Health Minister Jens Spahn, who himself caught the virus, says he doesn’t know where he was infected.

Chancellor Angela Merkel

said the number of COVID-19 patients in intensive care has doubled in 10 days, and the government couldn’t stand by and watch.

“The virus punishes half-heartedness,” she said of the new restrictions, telling Germans that “everyone has it in their own hands” to make them a success.

“We will do try to do everything politically so that this is limited to November,” Merkel told reporters in Berlin. But she stressed that “we are very much dependent on the majority of people simply being sensible and playing along, and so

saving others’ lives.”

The new restrictions are still milder than the ones Germany imposed in the first phase of the pandemic in March and April. This time, schools, non-essential shops and hairdressers are staying open. Officials will review the situation after two weeks.

England is headed for a tougher lockdown starting Thursday, with nonessential shops and hairdressers closing for a month and people allowed to leave home for only a short list of reasons including exercise. Travel is also discouraged.

IS attack on Afghan university leaves 22 dead, 22 wounded

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Islamic State militants in Afghanistan stormed Kabul University on Monday as it hosted a book fair attended by the Iranian ambassador, sparking an hours-long gunbattle and leaving at least 22 dead and 22 wounded at the war-torn country’s largest school.

Most of the casualties were students and there were fears the death toll could climb further with some of the wounded said to be in critical condition.

It was the second attack on an educational institution in Kabul in as many weeks.

The Taliban promptly issued a statement denying they took part in the assault, which came as the insurgents continue peace talks with representatives of Kabul’s U.S.-backed government, with the aim to help the United States finally withdraw from Afghanistan. Later in the day, the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack.

As the attack unfolded, students and teachers were seen fleeing the part of the campus where law and jour-

nalism schools are located, while hand grenades exploded and automatic rifle fire could be heard. Scores of Afghan special forces surrounded the campus, herding teachers and students to safety.

The chaos subsided as the sun set over the Afghan capital and the Interior Ministry’s spokesman, Tariq Arian, said all three attackers involved in the assault were killed.

The Islamic State group said it targeted newly graduated “judges and investigators belonging to the apostate Afghan government” gathered at the campus, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors terror online messaging.

The IS statement claimed only two of its fighters were involved, and posted their photographs, which conflicted with the Afghan authorities’ report of three attackers. The claim did not indicate the IS intended to target the Iranian envoy or the book fair.

Last week, IS also claimed a brutal assault on a tutoring center in the Afghan capi-

tal’s mostly Shiite neighborhood of Dasht-e-Barchi that killed at least 24 students and wounded more than 100 others on Oct. 24.

The peace negotiations between the Taliban and the Kabul government, known as intra-Afghan talks, were part of a deal Washington signed with the insurgents in February. They are taking place in the Gulf Arab state of Qatar, and are seen as Afghanistan’s best chance at peace—though daily bloodshed has continued.


Five hours into the fighting on Monday, sporadic grenade explosions and automatic weapons fire still echoed down the empty streets surrounding the university’s fenced compound. Afghan troops stood guard.

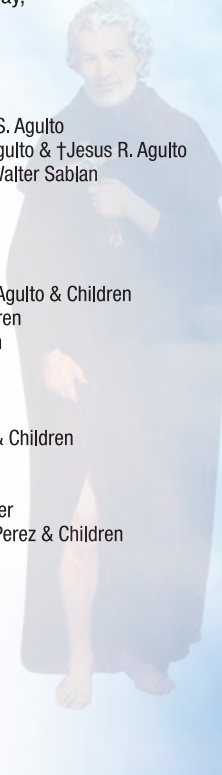
Ahmad Samim, a university student, told journalists he saw militants armed with pistols and Kalashnikov assault rifles firing at the school, the country’s oldest with some 17,000 students. He said the attack happened at the university’s eastern side, where its law and journalism faculty teach.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†RAMON R. AGULTO

of Chalan Kanoa, Saipan was called to his eternal rest on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at the age of 57.





In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents:	†Rosa R. Agulto and †Felix S. Agulto
Brothers:	†Felix R. Agulto, †Juan R. Agulto & †Jesus R. Agulto
Brothers in law:	†Jose N. Acosta and †Jim Walter Sablan
Sister in law:	†Pacencia S. Agulto

He will always live in the hearts of his


Siblings:

- Juana A. Acosta & Children
- Francisco R. & Elizabeth B. Agulto & Children
- Herman M. Cabrera & Children
- Dolores R. Agulto & Children
- Jacinta R. Agulto
- Maria R. Agulto & Children
- Jose R. Agulto & Children
- Antonio R. & Ana C. Agulto & Children
- Carmen R. Agulto
- Felix R. Agulto
- Melissa A. Sablan & Daughter
- Zinna R. Agulto & Gregorio Perez & Children
- Esther G. Agulto & Children
- Gregorio Perez Jr.

Sister-in-Law:

Reared Son:

Gregorio Perez Jr.



He will be missed by his numerous cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Daily mass of intention is offered at 6:00 AM at Mount Carmel Cathedral. On Friday, November 6, 2020 at 8:50am, his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Mount Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respect. Responso Service will be held at 9am, followed by the Holy Rosary at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by interment service at Chalan Kanoa cemetery. Your thoughts, prayers and presence are greatly appreciated.

Thank You and Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase Ginen I Familia.

THE FAMILY

Good Housekeeping

Nov. 1—The jack-o'-lanterns are starting to rot. The cobwebs have melded into your bushes. The skulls and skeletons have been thrown into a box until next year.

All that's left is candy. Piles and piles of candy. What are you possibly going to do with all of it?

Here are five ideas for what to do with leftover Halloween candy.

Donate it

Allocate some favorites to keep, then gather the rest to donate to a worthy cause.

You'll find that many dentist offices work with Operation Gratitude, the Halloween Candy Buy Back program, or other organizations to gather the tooth-harming, sugar-filled candy and ship the treats to troops overseas. Check with your dentist, or find participating locations at operationgratitude.com.

Look out for other organizations accepting donations, too, like the Ronald McDonald House, who can use the candy to offer sweet treats to families of children receiving medical care. The organization just asks the you contact your local House first to determine specifics for candy donations.

Bake with it

Got a gathering coming up? In charge of dessert? No problem.

There are a gazillion recipes online for leftover Halloween candy. But let's keep it simple: Take any of your favorite recipes for cookies or brownies and stir in some chopped-up Reese's cups (you have those leftover?!), Snickers, Milky Way bars, M&M's, etc. before you bake them.

You can also freeze candy



By AMY HANLINE
USA TODAY

to use in recipes later.

Host a pairing party

You worked hard on those costumes. You went big for the trunk or treat. You endured trucking through the neighborhood in rain and cold weather—never missing a single house with a porch light on.

You earned that candy.

Host a candy and wine pairing party or a candy and beer pairing party so see how the flavors work together. Not into booze? Who's up for a left-

over candy party? Best recipe wins? Yes please!

The Growler Guys have a pairing guide for beers...like put Reese's cups with a porter or Kit Kats with brown ale.

And Vivino has a guide for wine. M&M's go well with a port wine and pair Skittles with a sauvignon blanc.

'Switch Witch' it

Keep your kids from consuming too much sugar by having them leave their candy for the "Switch Witch" in an ex-

change for a special gift.

The Switch Witch is a twist on the Elf on the Shelf, mixed with a little Tooth Fairy magic. The idea, crafted by parents, follows the legend of the friendly "Switch Witch," who visits with family the days leading up to Halloween. Then, on Halloween night, the witch takes the candy and leaves something better behind— and, you know, something a little healthier.

The Original Switch Witch kit with doll and storybook

can be purchased on Amazon for \$20. The Switch Witch also partners with Operation Gratitude and recommends that relinquished candy gets donated to a good cause (see idea No. 1).

This is also a good one if your kiddo has dietary restrictions or food allergies.

Steal it for yourself

One recent survey of 2,000 parents revealed that two-thirds of respondents have stolen candy given to their trick-

or-treating child.

We're guessing the other third is lying.

The survey also found the parents cover up their thievery by hiding it and hoping their child would forget about it, or pretending the candy vanished and saying they were inspecting it—you know, for safety reasons.

We understand this isn't the greatest idea, because parents don't really need the sugar either. But hey, steal it, then refer to ideas 1 through 3 above.

Home cooking classes are the new dinner party

By JERRIE WHITELEY
HERALD DEMOCRAT

If 2020 has taught the world anything, it is that adaptability is the key to success. Living rooms are turning into work from home offices and kitchens into everything from kindergarten play areas to classrooms for everyone from elementary students to parents wanting to learn the art of cooking.

And cooking, it seemed, was on everyone's mind. Every social media feed around seemed to instantly fill with recipes and videos on how to make everything from the

bread that was scarce at the store to a Julia Child worthy beef bourguignon.

While some were fine with finding inspiration and instruction online, others longed for a more personal connection and a way to share their knowledge with their friends.

Enter area chef Rebecca Clare Wyatt helps adults turn a desire to improve their cooking skills into an event that is part cooking class and part dinner party right in their own homes.

Trained as both a personal trainer and a chef, Wyatt has written a cookbook on her style of turning healthy ingre-

dients into meals her physical fitness clients could enjoy while without ruining their progress.

But cooking didn't start out to be part of the package. She started to notice her clients were struggling to keep to the diets needed reach their goals. Luckily, her in-laws just happened to be classically trained European chefs who were only too happy to share their insights and tricks of the trade with her. She spent 11 years soaking up their love of turning fresh ingredients into fine food and then started sharing those skills with her clients.

Over the years those lessons turned into an event of sorts that takes place in other people's homes. In recent months, several of the classes have happened in the Grayson County area. The whole thing usually starts with a friend of a friend telling someone about an event that they attended. Then Wyatt gets a call about setting up a party. Generally, she said, the group is made up of people who want to learn about cooking but also to share the evening and some great food together.

Wyatt works with the host or hostess of the party to decide how many people are

expected at the event. Then Wyatt goes to work. "Once the menu is designed, I do all of the shopping and bring whatever we need for the cooking class." When she first arrives at the event, she has to get the group talking about their skill and comfort level in the kitchen.

"I teach the classes with a hands on approach. Because people learn by doing, I guide them through the prep and preparation. They do most of the work. It's more permanent that way."

It also allows the group to share and experience that they will talk about for weeks to come and remember anytime any of them dine together in

the future. Wyatt said people tend to relax around the kitchen and everyone enjoys a meal more if they helped to prepare it.

Giving them a memorable experience is grounded in Wyatt's preparation and skill level. In addition to writing her own cookbook a couple of years ago, Wyatt's culinary resume includes, "private chef work for the family that owned the Chap D'or mansion *the biggest house in Texas) and culinary work for the Texas Bluebonnet Retreats." Wyatt explained that last job required her to do all of the special needs menu design and cooking for terminally ill cancer patients.

Life & Style

Johnny Depp loses UK libel case over 'wife-beater' claims

LONDON (AP)—Johnny Depp lost his high-stakes libel case Monday against The Sun tabloid newspaper for labeling him a “wife beater,” as a British judge said he believed the actor had abused ex-wife Amber Heard to such an extent that she frequently feared for her life.

In a decision widely cheered by campaigners against domestic abuse, Justice Andrew Nicol said the defendants proved during the trial in London that their allegations against Depp were “substantially true.” Depp’s lawyers said it would be “ridiculous” if the actor didn’t appeal the decision.

Over the course of nearly three weeks this summer, Nicol heard lurid—and irreconcilable—accounts from Depp and Heard in which each accused the other of abuse.

“I have found that the great majority of alleged assaults of Ms. Heard by Mr. Depp have been proved to the civil standard,” Nicol wrote in his ruling.

In arguably the biggest English libel trials of the 21st century, Depp sued News Group Newspapers, publisher of The Sun, and its executive editor, Dan Wootton, over an April 2018 article that accused him of assaulting fellow actor Heard.



In this Nov. 3, 2011 file photo, U.S. actors Johnny Depp, left, and Amber Heard arrive for the European premiere of their film, “The Rum Diary,” in London. AP

The ruling deals a big blow to Depp’s reputation that could imperil his career, which has seen the actor take the lead in some of the most popular family movies in recent times, from “Edward Scissorhands” to most lucratively the “Pirates of the Caribbean” franchise. That reputational cost clearly comes with an indeterminate financial cost on top of the

several millions pounds in legal costs he will likely be required to pay following Monday’s ruling.

A lawyer for Depp, 57, described the decision as “perverse as it is bewildering.”

“The judgment is so flawed that it would be ridiculous for Mr. Depp not to appeal this decision,” Jenny Afia said in a statement.

An attorney for Heard, meanwhile, said the verdict was “not a surprise” for anyone who followed the trial.

Historically, Britain’s libel laws have been seen as favoring public figures and for being tough on media outlets and publishers, so Depp’s defeat may prompt anyone considering legal action to think again. The Sun called the decision

a “stunning victory for press freedom.”

At the heart of the Sun’s characterization of Depp as a “wife-beater” were allegations the actor assaulted Heard 14 times in locations around the world.

Heard, 34, said the abuse was largely fueled by Depp’s heavy drug and alcohol use and that he could turn into “a self-created third party,” which he referred to as “The Monster.” She alleged that at various time between 2013 and 2016 he hit, slapped and shoved her, pulled her hair and threw bottles “like grenades” at her.

Nicol noted several times when Heard feared for her life, including during what Heard described as a “three-day hostage situation” in Australia in March 2015 while Depp was filming a “Pirates of the Caribbean” movie.

“I accept her evidence of the nature of the assaults he committed against her,” the

judge wrote about the episode in Australia. “They must have been terrifying.”

In court, Depp accused Heard of making up her allegations, while acknowledging wide-ranging drug problems. However, he insisted he is “not a violent person, especially with women,” a characterization that was backed up in statements from former partners Winona Ryder and Vanessa Paradis.

The judge found that 12 of the 14 instances of domestic violence had occurred and said that was sufficient to rule against Depp.

He also accepted Heard’s evidence that the allegations against one of the world’s most popular actors had “a negative effect” on her work as an actor and activist.

Depp argued that the allegations caused “serious harm” to his reputation and “significant distress and embarrassment.”

Antiquities recovered in 2015 in NYC given back to Pakistan

NEW YORK (AP)—Religious relics and sculptures dating to the 2nd century that were recovered by authorities in 2015 were turned over Monday to representatives of the government of Pakistan.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. held a repatriation ceremony for 45 objects that were among those recovered in New York City when search warrants were executed against a suspect in the trafficking of the illegal exportation of artifacts from countries including Pakistan,

India and Afghanistan.

Another five had been returned to India in August.

The Manhattan district attorney’s office and the federal government have investigative units that work on recovering stolen antiquities and returning them to their rightful origins.

Last year, Vance’s office repatriated a gilded coffin that had been on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art after it was determined the piece had been looted from Egypt and sold under false documentation.

Actor Carol Arthur DeLuise, widow of Dom DeLuise, dies at 85

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Carol Arthur DeLuise, an actor who appeared in several Mel Brooks films and was the widow of Dom DeLuise, has died. She was 85.

A family statement said DeLuise died Sunday in Los Angeles after an 11-year battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

One of her most memorable

roles was in Brooks’ “Blazing Saddles,” as Harriet Johnson, a schoolmarm who is among the residents of a Western town offended when a Black sheriff is appointed. In one scene, she starts out soft-spoken before loudly, and profanely, assailing the officials who appointed the new sheriff, played by Cleavon Little.

“She was so great in Blazing Saddles as Harriett Johnson the over-the-top, outspoken schoolmarm,” Brooks tweeted. “She will be missed.”

She also appeared on Dean Martin and Dom DeLuise’s shows and played George Burns’ daughter in “The Sunshine Boys.”

She met DeLuise in 1963

while performing at the Provincetown Playhouse in New York City and they married two years later.

The couple had three sons, actors Peter, Michael and David DeLuise. The family all appeared in 1979’s police comedy “Hot Stuff,” which Dom DeLuise directed and starred in. Dom DeLuise died in 2009.

Recently married woman can’t stomach husband’s negativity

DEAR ABBY: I am a 39-year-old woman who has been in a relationship for five years and married for two. Abby, I am consumed with regret for marrying this man. He’s loyal and has a good job, but he spends most of our money on food (eating out at work, drinking expensive beers, buying tools, etc.) and he is probably the most negative person I know. His negativity is so overwhelming it has pulled me down closer to his level than where I started when we met.

I feel trapped. I don’t want to be single at 40, and I know somewhere in there I love him, so I’m working on my own energy so it won’t affect me so much. He just makes everything so miserable with his attitude. He exudes bad energy. He pouts, throws temper tantrums, is rude, condescending, and EVERYONE around him can feel his bad moods. He has only recently started therapy and I want to be patient, but I have this loop playing in my head—“I hate his guts!” I know it’s not true, but I am so resentful and remorseful for marrying him. Is there anything I can do to save my marriage? Is it even worth it?

SECOND THOUGHTS IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: There is something you can do, and I sincerely hope you will take it to heart. Recognize that “pouting, temper tantrums, condescension and (constant) negativity” is hostile and abusive. I am glad your

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



husband is receiving professional help to improve his behavior and attitude. Now it’s time for you to do the same. If you do, it will help you to clear your head and your soul. It will also give you deeper insight into whether this is worth it.

P.S. Saving your marriage will have to be a joint effort. This is not something you can do on your own.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been dealing with some emotional stress for well over a year. I’ve recently found out my wife’s ex was much more well-endowed than I am. I understand that’s not the most important thing, but it is messing with me mentally. One reason is, a long time ago when she was drunk, she asked me why it was so small. When I came across pictures of him, it all came back.

I feel like we need to talk about it, but I don’t know how to start. I know she will get mad and I don’t think she would tell me the truth. A lot of things go along with these feelings, which is part of why it bothers me so much. I probably need to just let it go, but it continues to haunt me. We have been married a long time and have had our share of problems. How do I get past this? Any help or guidance would be greatly appreciated.

NOT MEASURING UP IN ALABAMA

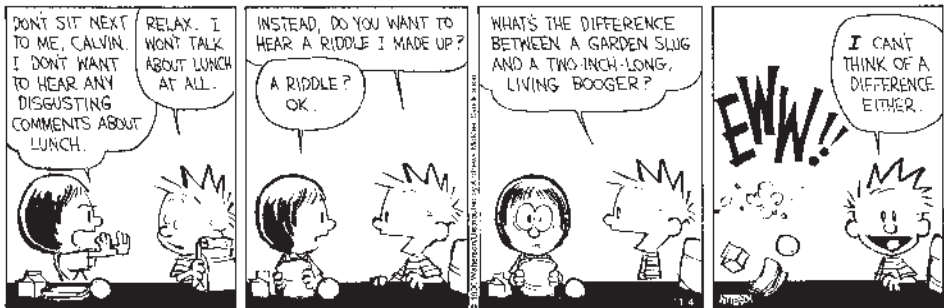
DEAR NOT MEASURING UP: What, exactly, is the “truth” you are afraid your wife will conceal if you bring this out in the open? If she thought you couldn’t satisfy her needs, she wouldn’t have married you. The question I would like answered is where those old photos were when you stumbled across them. Were you going through her belongings because you feel insecure about things other than your anatomy? This does need to be discussed when you are both sober, because if you remain silent, your insecurity will only grow worse. Please don’t wait to do it.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

28 Musical set in 41 Pvt.'s superior 12 — Vader

1 Pledge set in 14 Jog

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Craven Yesterday's answer 11-4

Solution time: 23 mins.

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sean Combs, 51; Matthew McConaughey, 51; Ralph Macchio, 59; Markie Post, 70.

Happy Birthday: Stick to a script this year. If you deviate from the blueprint you have in place, you will find it challenging to get back on track. Set reasonable goals, and don't waste time on trivial matters that don't contribute to the results you are trying to achieve. Be honest with yourself and those you love. Progress will be yours. Your numbers are 4, 12, 21, 32, 37, 43, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Express your feelings and opinions, and find out who is in agreement with you. Once you establish your position, it will be easier to make decisions to help you move forward. Personal improvements will lead to positive changes. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Pay close attention to the way others react to the information you share. It's important not to exaggerate facts or fall victim to someone's overrated opinion of something you're considering doing or purchasing. Play it safe. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Size up situations and take action. It's better to be a participant if you want to have a say in what happens. Ask challenging questions, and support whoever shares your values. Don't wait until it's too late to make a difference. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let an emotional matter escalate. At the first sign of trouble, address issues swiftly and make positive suggestions. Don't take chances with your health. Choose protective measures

and virtual options over in-person gatherings. An offer someone makes looks inviting. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Speak up if you don't agree or like something. Trying to please everyone won't help you reach your goal. Take better care of yourself physically, and say no to anyone enticing you. Romance will enhance a meaningful relationship. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let an emotional matter stop you from taking care of your responsibilities. Keep busy, and it will ease stress and ensure productivity. Welcome a change to your routine as well as to the way you do things. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Pick up the pace. Put an end to complaints and criticism by taking charge and making things happen. Share your vision with someone you love or work alongside, and the input offered will encourage you to proceed. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A change someone close to you makes will be a wake-up call. Don't ignore the signs. Ask questions, show interest and include those you love in your thoughts and plans. An aggressive approach to joint ventures is favored. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Spend less time pondering over the impossible and more time focused on achieving. Spending time with someone who supports and encourages you will bring you closer together and help you accomplish what you set out to do. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't lose sight of what you are trying to achieve because you face opposition. Allow others the freedom to do as they please, and it will buy you time to put your plans in motion. Working alone will have its advantages. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are in a better position than you realize. Don't let someone downplay what you have to offer. Know your strengths and how best to utilize them to get ahead. Pay close attention to medical, financial and legal matters. Romance is favored. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Mixed emotions will lead you down a rabbit hole. Check your ego at the door when dealing with joint ventures or people who try to manipulate you. Use your imagination, and you'll come up with a game plan you can call your own. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, enthusiastic and sophisticated. You are speculative and practical. Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

2	1	9	8	3	7	4	6
4				9			
8				7			
7	8	3		2	9	1	
			7				5
			9				8
			3				9
			2				1
3	5	1		8	2	6	

Difficulty Level ★★

11/04

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

6	7	8	3	9	4	1	2	5
4	2	9	7	1	5	3	6	8
1	3	5	2	6	8	4	7	9
7	5	3	8	2	1	6	9	4
9	1	4	5	7	6	8	3	2
8	6	2	9	4	3	5	1	7
2	8	6	1	5	9	7	4	3
5	9	1	4	3	7	2	8	6
3	4	7	6	8	2	9	5	1

Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CHARLES, CHARLIE, CHARLEY, CHUCK Solution: 5 letters

B	M	E	L	E	M	E	N	T	S	H	E	E	N	B
M	R	C	N	T	R	A	W	E	T	S	O	O	A	A
C	A	S	D	E	H	W	A	T	T	S	H	T	S	R
C	B	N	C	E	L	R	E	V	R	A	C	T	N	K
A	E	Y	N	H	R	R	W	B	L	H	S	L	E	L
R	W	E	S	U	L	M	A	L	E	L	C	E	K	E
T	L	L	B	P	H	A	O	H	O	R	H	A	C	Y
H	E	K	S	A	R	R	T	T	C	E	A	A	I	N
Y	Y	A	A	A	R	A	H	T	T	K	P	K	D	O
B	J	O	N	E	S	N	D	N	E	A	L	O	Y	M
U	H	U	D	A	N	I	E	L	S	R	I	R	R	K
C	T	G	E	O	R	G	E	T	I	D	N	S	R	C
K	U	S	R	A	M	O	S	Z	T	N	U	M	E	A
E	P	N	S	C	L	A	S	S	I	C	G	O	B	L
T	O	W	N	S	E	N	D	E	T	N	A	N	E	B

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Barkley, Barnett, Batch, Benante, Berry, Bewley, Blackmon, Bucket, Carver, Chaplin, Charlene, Classic, Daniels, Dees, Dickens, Drake, Elements, George, Hall, Hunnam, Jones, Korsmo, Lenahan, Lorre, Mars, McCarthy, McDermott, Muntz, Neal, Oakley, Ottley, Pace, Puth, Rose, Sanders, Schlatter, Sheen, Sloth, Spradling, Stewart, Townsend, Tuna, Watts, Weber

Yesterday's Answer: Technicolor Purchase the NEW Treasury 41 in time for the holidays! Order online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 75 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Brady's 2 TD passes lift Bucs over Giants



EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.
(AP) — Tom Brady has felt uncomfortable

against the New York Giants before. Most notably in a couple of Super Bowl losses.

He recognized Monday night's 25-23 victory by his Tampa Bay Buccaneers wasn't very artistic. At least, for the star quarterback, it had a better ending.

"We obviously didn't play the way we're capable of, but it was good to get a win," Brady said.

Lackluster for much of the game, Brady did what he does best in the second half. He threw touchdowns passes to Rob Gronkowski and Mike Evans, giving him the career lead in TD throws once more.

The Saints' Drew Brees had passed Brady on Sunday, but now the six-time Super Bowl champ is back on top with 561. Evans' diving 8-yard catch provided the go-ahead points.

But Tampa Bay (6-2) had to sweat it out. Daniel Jones drove New York (1-7) 70 yards in 13 plays and connected with Golden Tate for a 19-yard touchdown with 28 seconds remaining. The 2-point conversion failed as the officials picked up a flag presumably for defensive pass interference.

"You never apologize for winning," Bucs coach Bruce Arians said. "We made the plays that counted."

Brady and Gronkowski earlier combined for a 3-yard scoring pass on which Gronk barely held onto the ball long enough. That made the old New England combination



New York Giants' Evan Engram dives for the end zone in front of Tampa Bay's Jordan Whitehead during the first half of an NFL game Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, in East Rutherford, N.J.

tom for two decades, then guided his team to a score, but it was merely Ryan Succop's second of four field goals, a 40-yarder with 7 seconds left in the half. Succop also had a 37-yard field goal on the game's opening drive, a 43-yarder set up by Carlton Davis' interception in early in the third quarter, and a 38-yarder with 3:41 to go for what turned out to be the decisive points.

Soon after Succop had made it 14-9, Gronkowski was in the end zone — only to see Daniel Jones connect with his tight end, Evan Engram, for a 30-yard play. That set up Gano's 33-yard kick and the 17-15 New York lead heading into the fourth period.

But that's usually Brady time.

Brady finished 28 for 40 for 279 yards, while Jones was 25 for 41 for 256 yards. Evans led Tampa Bay with five catches for 55 yards, and Gronkowski wound up with four receptions for 41 yards. Former Giants DE Jason Pierre-Paul had one sack among his five tackles. Giants WR Sterling Shepard had eight receptions for 74 yards.

The Giants donned uniforms similar to what the 1990 Super Bowl title team wore, white jerseys, and pants with blue and red stripes, a GIANTS helmet decal instead of the familiar "ny," and white facemasks replacing the customary gray.

second in TDs for a duo with 93, 21 behind Peyton Manning and Marvin Harrison of the Colts.

Unable to connect with Evans on a 2-point conversion, Brady still had the Bucs on top 15-14.

After New York went back ahead on Graham Gano's 33-yard field goal, Daniel Jones was pressured into an unwise throw to Tate that Sean Murphy-Bunting picked off at the Tampa 33. That set the stage for the 66-yard drive to the

touchdown by Evans.

Jones had two costly picks, helping negate a strong effort by New York's defense.

"The interceptions were huge for us," Brady said.

"The young quarterback, he's still trying to do too much," Arians added.

First-year Giants coach Joe Judge, who won three Super Bowls in New England with Brady, is not discouraged by the team's record halfway through its schedule.

"I see a lot of improve-

ment, our guys improving day by day," first-year coach Joe Judge said. "We have a good foundation. I see the core of a team that is developing."

New York got an early break—and soon after a touchdown—when Brady's pass was tipped by Dalvin Tomlinson and caught by Bucs running back Ronald Jones. But he fumbled when hit by Blake Martinez and rookie Darnay Holmes recovered at the Tampa Bay 12.

Dion Lewis' made a sliding catch in the corner of the

end zone on third down for a 7-3 lead.

Ronald Jones was a non-factor the rest of the half as Leonard Fournette got most of the action.

The Giants' next scoring drive was a model of efficiency, featuring two gains of 11 yards, a 12-yarder, a 14-yarder and a 17-yard run by Wayne Gallman. He scored from the 2 to finish the 10-play series that covered 77 yards for a 14-3 lead.

Brady, as has been his cus-

NFL considering expanded playoffs

NEW YORK—The NFL is considering further expanding its playoffs this season if the COVID-19 pandemic forces significant changes to the regular-season schedule, according to reports.

The NFL competition committee is preparing a contingency plan to present to team owners to expand the playoffs to 16 teams—eight in each conference. The proposal is being prepared in the case that games continue to be lost amid the pandemic as teams move past bye weeks in their schedules.

The competition committee is made of up NFL team owners, front-office members and head coaches. Denver Broncos general manager John Elway, Washington head coach Ron Rivera and New York Giants owner John Mara are among the members of the

committee.

What would expanded playoffs look like?

The reported contingency format would take four division winners and four wild-card teams from each conference. The expanded playoff would eliminate the first-round bye for No. 1 seeds, which would take on the No. 8 seeds in their respective conferences under the reported proposal.

The NFL is already slated to implement a new playoff format this season, expanded from six teams in each conference to seven. The traditional first-round byes for No. 2 seeds are already off the table.

The proposal mirrors one implemented this season in MLB, which expanded its playoff from 12 teams to 16 amid its COVID-19-shortened season. MLB saw a

more significant impact to its regular season than is anticipated in the NFL, with schedules reduced from 162 games to 60 games for each team.

The reported NFL proposal is likely a last-case scenario for the NFL as the league is jumping through logistical hoops to ensure that each team plays a full 16-game slate. Outbreaks among teams starting after Week 3 have forced several changes to the NFL schedule.

The NFL has already declared that it's willing to add an 18th week to the regular season and move the Super Bowl from its scheduled Feb. 7 date to accommodate schedule changes forced by COVID-19.

With COVID-19 spiking across the country and forecasts predicting continued growth of the pandemic as

winter approaches, the NFL is planning for more outbreaks among teams.

Pats' streak in jeopardy

During Bill Belichick's coaching tenure, the Patriots have grown accustomed to being the front-runner in the AFC East.

After losing their fourth straight game on Sunday to Buffalo, New England suddenly finds itself in a very unfamiliar place.

At 2-5, the Patriots trail both the Bills (6-2) and Dolphins (4-3) in the division standings, leaving their hopes of winning a 12th consecutive AFC East title in serious jeopardy.

Qualifying for the playoffs isn't even assured at this point.

Since 2010 only four teams—the Ravens (2011), Texans (2015), Chiefs (2015) and Colts (2018)—have started 2-5 and still made it to the postseason. The previous time

New England failed to make the playoffs was 2008, when Tom Brady suffered a knee injury in the season opener.

But at this point, just finding a way to get a win is the only thing on the Patriots' minds.

Quarterback Cam Newton, whose fumble in the closing seconds Sunday cost New England a chance to potentially pull off the win in their final drive, said the only thing they can do is move on.

"This is a production-based league. Coach preaches each and every day to protect the football, to play smart football," he said. "I think that's what makes it so frustrating, being that we're trying extremely hard. But at the end of the day, you don't get the results that you want, then what do you do? We just have to focus in on practice and just have our best week yet and keep building from what we have."

During their four-game losing streak the Patriots are tied for last in the league in turnovers (12) and are second to last in the NFL averaging 12.3 points per game. Only the 0-8 Jets are worse at 7.25 points per game.

The good news is the Jets are up next on the schedule.

"We're in in tough spot and we've dug a hole. But it doesn't mean we can't dig ourselves out. It doesn't mean our season's over," running back Damien Harris said. "If we don't believe in each other, then we don't have a chance."

If there is anything to build on, it's that the offense had some of its best rhythm in weeks in the second half.

The 22-yard touchdown run by Harris late in the third quarter and the 2-yard TD run by Newton early in the fourth marked the first time the Patriots have had back-to-back touchdown drives this season. (AP/NBC)

NBA running out of time for Dec. 22 start



NEW YORK—National Basketball Association commissioner Adam Silver spoke with league GMs on Monday and told teams “we’re running out of time” for their chances of getting an agreement for a Dec. 22 start to the season.

Talks with players and the union have been ongoing, but there’s a very small window open to get an agreement in place for the season to tip-off before Christmas Day.

The National Basketball Players Association has engaged in conversations with players on the issue of the start date of the season—December or January—and also continues to negotiate with the league on a number of financial amendments to the CBA needing resolution for start of 2020-2021 season.

These talks come after the Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Miami Heat in six games for the NBA Championship on Oct. 11, barely over three weeks ago.

While there are some teams that didn’t even play in the bubble, and some that exited fairly early, you could argue that at least the last four teams that remained—the Lakers, Heat, Denver Nuggets and Boston Celtics—wouldn’t have had an ample time to rest during their offseason if the season were to start by Dec. 22, considering that would put the start of training camp within the next month.

However, if the start to the season were to push into January like some players want it to, the financial ramifications for the NBA as a whole could

be devastating.

50-game season

The NBA said next season would begin Christmas at the earliest, more likely in 2021. February appeared most likely. March drew mention, too.

The league insisted on starting on Dec. 22.

Players, according to NBA executive director Michele Roberts, largely oppose the plan. A faction of players, including stars, prefer to wait until Martin Luther King Day (Jan. 18).

But the NBA has reportedly indicated it could play just 50 games if start date would be that late. It’d be 72 games with a Dec. 22 start.

A 50-game season is undesirable for everyone. Owners and players split revenue about 50-50. In simplest terms: more games, more revenue.

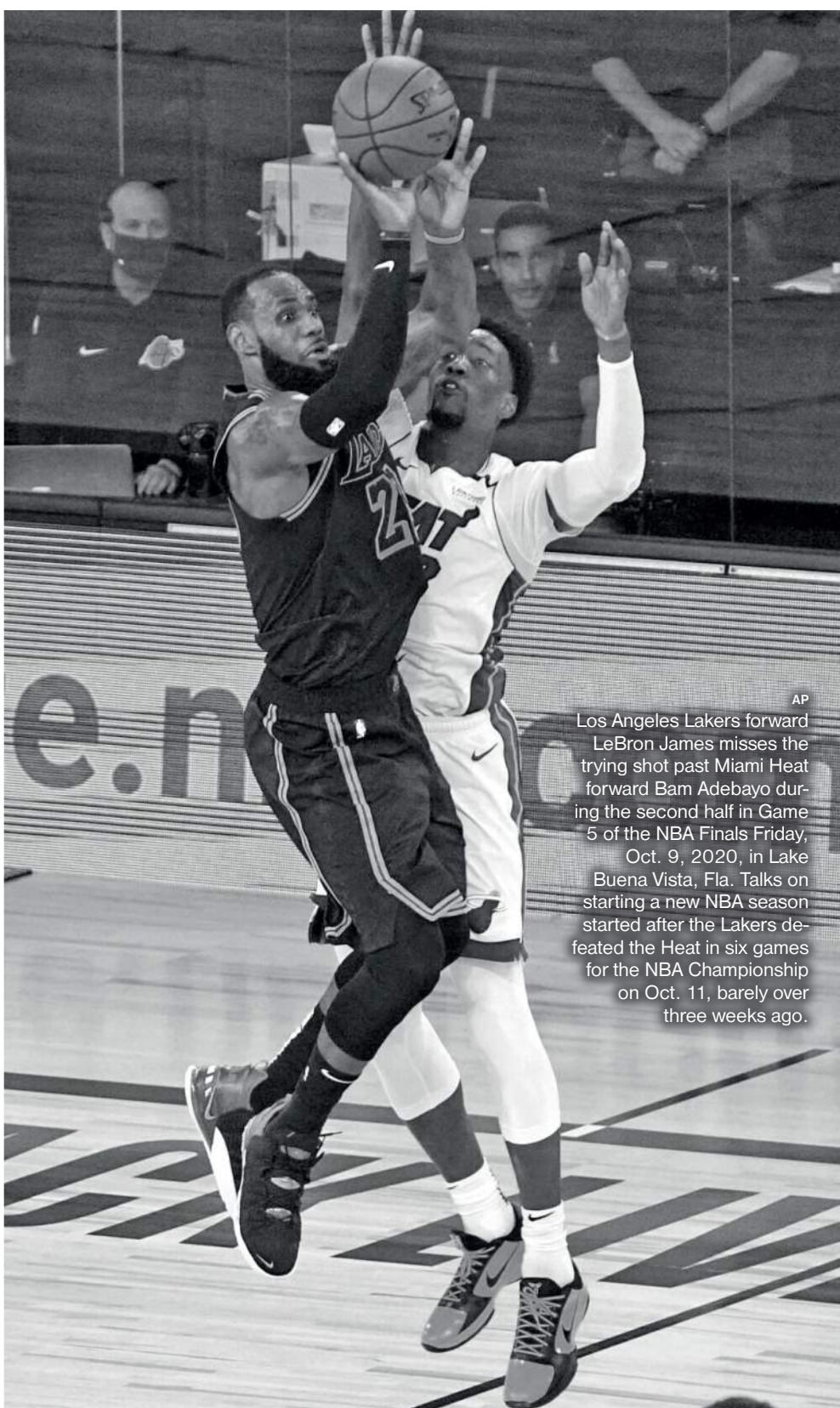
But players—not owners—just spent lengthy stints in the bubble. Players—not owners—would have to face the physical and mental toll of resuming so quickly.

Owners can sit back and count the money.

So, it’s understandable players oppose such a quick turnaround. For many, starting a 72-game season Dec. 22 would be exhausting. (For another group of players, the lay-off has already been too long.)

Unfortunately for players whose teams just made deep playoff runs, a prompt start is the way to maximize revenue.

For too long, the NBA aimed to get fans in arenas next season. The coronavirus pandemic makes that incredibly difficult. As that reality set in, the league shifted its priority to television. That means playing a separate



AP
Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James misses the trying shot past Miami Heat forward Bam Adebayo during the second half in Game 5 of the NBA Finals Friday, Oct. 9, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Talks on starting a new NBA season started after the Lakers defeated the Heat in six games for the NBA Championship on Oct. 11, barely over three weeks ago.

opening night, playing on Christmas and finishing before the Olympics.

This should have been the plan all along—or at least communicated as a potential option to players. It is jarring to expect a later start then suddenly get told to report to work sooner.

But, again, that is the way to make the most money.

It’s also a way to get the following season back on track—which will both maximize the money of that season and get players their summers off again.

As much as the league deserves criticism for setting one expectation then defying it, players might have a tough time rejecting the Dec. 22, 72-game plan.

The questions of games played obviously has financial impacts for the players—an 82-game salary is different from a 72-game salary. National TV and most regional TV deals are already signed and paid for, with minimum delivery requirements for the league and teams to meet. If the NBA were to come up short, TV partners could either get money back now or receive product for free in the future.

With no tickets being sold, the NBA’s TV partners have more power. It’s why Christmas games are so important, in addition to avoiding viewing conflicts in the summer and fall with the Olympics and the NFL.

The NBA is about to head into uncharted financial territory. The decisions made in the next week or so will be the blueprint for surviving it, and players will shoulder some of the sacrifice. (AP/NBC)

PHILADELPHIA—Daryl Morey came out in his introductory press conference with the 76ers and said his two stars—Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons—can play together.

Doc Rivers, also on the video conference, echoed the same thing.

“I absolutely think they can work together,” Morey said first.

“I have no doubt they can. Again, I haven’t been in the lab with them yet, but I know they can,” Rivers followed. “I think we have to change the narrative. They haven’t won yet, not that they can’t win. The ‘can’t’ should be taken out.”

That is vintage Rivers—he is gifted at building up players’ confidence. Maybe the best example of that in Los Angeles was DeAndre Jordan, who struggled under previous Clippers coaching

Morey insists Embiid and Simmons can play together

but was put in the right role by Rivers, gained confidence as Rivers praised him at every turn, and became an All-NBA player under Rivers. He can get players to believe.

This backs up the reports that Morey and the 76ers have zero intention of breaking up Embiid and Simmons right now (which will make Sam Hinkie happy). The new front office and coaching staff in Philadelphia are going to look to make this work. Embiid is one of the elite centers in the game, a defensive force that makes Philadelphia tough to score against and on the other end can score points both around the rim and occasionally from three. Simmons attacks the rim as well as anyone, is a gifted passer, and also is an elite defender.

There are holes in their games (Simmons’ shooting being the big one) and questions of fit, but it is too hard to get elite talent in this league. Give Rivers a chance, and change the roster around them to fit better.

Don’t expect Morey to force square pegs into round holes—he’s not going to try and play small and shoot a historic number of threes with Embiid and Simmons.

“The goal is not to shoot three-pointers, the goal is to win,” Morey said. “You can score on offense in a bunch of different ways. Joel happens to be one of the most efficient post-up players in the league. I used to get the question in Houston of, ‘What would you do if you had (Shaquille O’Neal)?’ And

my answer was, ‘I would give Shaq the ball about a hundred times a game.’ Joel is a talent on both ends.

“And again, we played the way we played in Houston because that was the best way to utilize the talents we had in Houston. Doc knows how to win more than me—he’s at least one ring ahead of me—and so he’s going to figure out how best to use them. It doesn’t have to be a three.”

Expect more threes and more shooting around Embiid and Simmons before Morey is done. Just don’t expect a radical overhaul from Day 1. The Sixers are going to try to make this work.

Meanwhile, When Morey and the Rockets traded away Clint Capela and acquired Robert Covington in Febru-

ary, Houston adopted a “micro-ball” style of play.

To make the Sixers a center-less team would require a lot of convoluted maneuvering, and Morey isn’t planning on it.

“Joel is a dominant, dominant big man,” he said. “I’m excited to get back to that. I worked with Yao Ming. We got very close in Houston with Yao Ming, and I think we can go all the way with Joel.”

Sam Hinkie, Morey’s former No. 2 in Houston and the Sixers’ GM during The Process, was known for his patience. While Morey is unafraid to make deals, he suggested that a dramatic, team-wide transformation this offseason might not be the most prudent path. He likes

this roster and could wait a bit before doing anything franchise-altering.

“One thing I think where organizations make a mistake is they try to make sure the roster is perfect on Game 1,” he said. “The players who are going to thrive under Doc and how Doc utilizes them is going to teach Elton and I a lot about how to best fit the players around them. So if there’s a great opportunity, obviously we’re going to do it early.

“We’ve got some important windows coming up with the draft and free agency, and also a trade window in there before whenever we play our first game. The thing is you want to do great moves when they’re available, but often the best move is not a move that’s done right away. We want to increase our understanding before we start to make these moves. (AP/NBC)

Betts, deGrom race for historic NL awards



**N E W
Y O R K**
(AP)—Los
A n g e l e s

Dodgers outfielder Mookie Betts could become the second player to win the MVP award in each league, and New York Mets ace Jacob deGrom is in the running for his third consecutive NL Cy Young Award.

The competition, of course, is tough.

Betts, Freddie Freeman and Manny Machado are the top finishers for NL MVP in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. DeGrom, Trevor Bauer and Yu Darvish are the finalists in the NL Cy Young race.

The three highest vote-getters for each BBWAA award were revealed on Monday. The winners will be announced next week.

Betts, who won the 2018 AL MVP award with Boston, helped the Dodgers win the World Series last week for the first time since 1988. Frank Robinson is the only player to win the MVP award in both leagues, accomplishing the feat in 1961 with Cincinnati and 1966 for Baltimore.

DeGrom could join Randy

7

From Page 20

Benjami Cai, Joey Xia, and Daniel Huang plus an alternate Ratul Bhuya. Kagman has listed Justo Quitugua, Jacob Santos, Tatum Jones, Paige Blanco, Jolene Cabrera, and Tsybokiko Joab on its six-student team, while Americus Murphy is named as alternate.

Rounding out the U11 teams with full squad is Isla Montessori, which will be represented by Georgia Baetge, Katie Manglona, Oliver and Addison Paulinh, Jackson Koning, Cooper Fong, and alternate Jason Baetge.

Mt. Carmel School will also compete in this weekend's U11 races, but will only field three students in Draven Tudela and Heni and Stephen Yeom.

Schools will be divided into two groups to avoid crowding with the first one racing at 4:15pm and the second at 5pm. Students in the U11 age groups will run the 1.1-mile course at the CPA Airport Field and must complete the race in 25 minutes.

After this Friday's opener, PSS and NMA will still have two more qualifiers—Nov. 13 and 20—and schools are permitted to change their rosters to allow other students to join the races.

Organizers are limiting the number of participants in this cross country season as a safety measure against the COVID-19 pandemic.



Johnson and Greg Maddux as the only pitchers to win at least three consecutive Cy Young Awards. But Bauer had an NL-best 1.73 ERA in 11 starts for Cincinnati, and Darvish went 8-3 with a 2.01 ERA in 12 starts for the Chicago Cubs, matching Cleveland Indians ace Shane Bieber for the major league lead in wins.

Balloting for the BBWAA awards was completed before

the start of the postseason.

Freeman batted .341 with 13 homers and 53 RBIs for the NL East champion Atlanta Braves, and Machado hit .304 with 16 homers and 47 RBIs for the San Diego Padres.

Bieber joined Minnesota Twins right-hander Kenta Maeda and Toronto Blue Jays left-hander Hyun Jin Ryu as finalists for the AL Cy Young Award. Bieber is the heavy

favorite after the 25-year-old right-hander went 8-1 with a 1.63 ERA and 122 strikeouts in 77 1/3 innings, leading the majors in wins, ERA and strikeouts.

"My confidence continues to grow just from coming into the season or into the league in 2018," Bieber said on MLB Network. "Learning my stuff, figuring it out, continuing to sharpen the breaking stuff and

^{AP}
The Los Angeles Dodgers' Mookie Betts (50) is among the top finishers for the NL MVP in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, joining the Atlanta Braves' Freddie Freeman and San Diego Padres' Manny Machado.

trying to add velocity as much as I can from year to year has been the big thing for me."

Chicago White Sox first baseman José Abreu, Cleveland Indians infielder José Ramírez and New York Yankees leadoff man DJ LeMahieu are the top three finishers in voting for the AL MVP award.

LeMahieu, who hit a big league-best .364, and Bauer are free agents after starring during the pandemic-shortened season.

The top finishers in voting for AL Manager of the Year are Tampa Bay's Kevin Cash, Toronto's Charlie Montoyo and Rick Renteria, who was let go by the White Sox after the team made the playoffs for the first time since 2008.

Cash was roundly criticized for pulling ace left-hander Blake Snell in the sixth inning of the decisive Game 6 of the World Series against the champion Dodgers.

Miami's Don Mattingly, San Diego's Jayce Tingler and the Cubs' David Ross are the

finalists for NL Manager of the Year. Tingler and Ross just completed their first seasons as big league skippers.

Mattingly guided the Marlins to their first playoff appearance since 2003 despite dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak that paused their season and ravaged the roster. Miami also lost 105 games last year.

"Coming into this season, there was a lot of people in our clubhouse and within our group that believed that we were going to have pretty good pitching," Mattingly said.

"With that, you can do a lot."

The finalists for AL Rookie of the Year are Houston Astros right-hander Cristian Javier and center fielders Kyle Lewis of the Seattle Mariners and Luis Robert of the White Sox. Philadelphia Phillies infielder Alec Bohm, San Diego Padres second baseman Jake Cronenworth and Milwaukee Brewers reliever Devin Williams are the top finishers for the NL rookie award.

The 25-year-old Lewis hit .262 with 11 homers and 28 RBIs in 58 games. He said playing 18 games with Seattle in September 2019 helped him out a lot this year.

"It helped me a ton just as far as nerves, as far as the ability to slow the game down," Lewis said. "Coming up last year everything was happening so fast."

WORK

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The NMIFA technical director commended the CNMI players for their efforts and dedication in training, but pointed out that they really need to compete in actual games to be better prepared for off-island tournaments.

"We continue training. This is a good advantage for maintaining football fitness and also it is good for team bonding. But we have no league and competitions and we cannot have training camp now. Also some countries have resumed their domestic leagues so it is hard to say we have advantage because we've been training despite the pandemic.

NMIFA, during last Friday's gathering, said it will try to find ways to slowly, but safely, hold regular matches at the NMISTC.

"Soccer players need to play as many games as possible. Hopefully, the COVID-19 situation would be better and we can resume local leagues in the near future so we can bring back the game environment. Our national teams will continue to work hard no matter what situation is to prepare for future tournaments," Mita said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2018 file photo, coach Michiteru Mita, right, gives instructions to national player Anthony Fruit.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior National Academy players play in a scrimmage as part of their training session at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2019 file photo, CNMI players train to get ready for their game against Guam in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival in Mokpo, South Korea



Brady's 2 TD
passes lift
Bucs over
Giants

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NBA running
out of time
for Dec. 22
start

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Work continues for NMI nat'l teams



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI national teams welcomed the news on the Asian Football Confederation getting ready for the schedule of events for 2021, as they continue to put in the work to prepare for off-island competitions.

The Commonwealth's players were slated to compete in several tournaments this year, including the EAFF E-1 Men's Football Championship 2021 Preliminary Round 1 and two AFC qualifying events, but these events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These competitions maybe rescheduled next year, as Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, during its 10th Ordinary Congress last Friday, announced that AFC has started discussions on the calendar of events for 2021.

NMIFA technical director and CNMI Men's National Team head coach Michiteru Mita said this development is good news to the Common-

wealth's players who are still training despite the pandemic and the uncertainties surrounding their scheduled off-island tournaments.

"The men's and women's national team players and junior academy players continue to work hard with a commitment for future tournaments and their respective goals or objectives. Normally, it is very hard to keep training without the local leagues and tournaments because soccer players practice for games. But they understand the situation, and they also know the COVID-19 situation in Guam, so they keep practicing and appreciate the opportunity given for national teams to continue training," Mita said.

The CNMI men's and women's national squads re-

sumed training in June, but with restrictions as they have to strictly follow the safety measures NMIFA and the local and federal government are implementing against the COVID-19 virus. The Junior National Academy, on the other hand, started its recruitment of new players in August, while U17 and U19 boys teams, and the U16 girls are also having their regular practices at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

"We try to create a training environment that is closer to international standards. Most of our current national players learned from past international tournaments so they know the quality techniques, speed, power, and the decisions needed during the game," the Blue Ayuyus coach said.

"They make use of the experience and try to improve these aspects even in a limited environment during this pandemic. Each national team has discussions among players after every training to reflect the day's training and they always compare the quality and intensity of our training with the international level," Mita added.

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Sunjoon Tenorio, seen here going for a header against a Macau player during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, is among the CNMI players on island and practicing at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



CNMI players battle for possession during a training scrimmage at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

7 schools field full squads in cross country opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Seven elementary schools will have a complete team when they compete in the opening leg of the 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series this Friday at the CPA Airport Field.

Saipan Community School has a full roster for its co-ed U11 squad after listing Joshua and Patrick McDonald, Allie Brasuell, Andre Guerrero, Vivian Chung, and Richard Zao on its six-

student team plus alternate Jessica Gao. William S. Reyes Elementary School is also all set with Marc Hernandez, Edwin Licican, Jiro Quindoza, Kristen Sierra, Sylbella Taisague, and Alliyah Villacrusis making up the squad, which also includes Monicah Salazar as



alternate.

All Schools track meet perennial winner Moshe Sikkell will lead the co-ed crew of Brilliant Star School and will team up with Nason Wessel, Pattseera Kasemsri, Aya and Sophia Smith, and Aiden Camacho. SIS will have returnees

Finn Altizer, Leilani Ruszala, and Jude Rayphand joining forces with Faith and Neveah Arriola, Gabriel Walsh and alternate Eliza Culp.

Agape Christian School also has a complete roster in Alice Duan, Jessie Campbell, Reyvile Van Escarlan,

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In this 2019 file photo, elementary school students head out to the course during the last qualifier for the Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Championships held at the Saipan Country Club.

